The Middlebury Campus

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Student accuses religious group of discrimination

By Emily Manning
Managing Editor

Junior Ryan Palsrok last week publicly charged the Christian Fellowship with violating Middlebury College's discrimination policy. His charge stems from an incident last spring in which Palsrok was barred from running for a leadership position in the organization because of his sexual orientation.

Palsrok said that his charge rests on the idea that Christian Fellowship has the ability to "systematically discriminate." Because of his interpretation of the Bible, the few people in the leadership of the organization prevented Palsrok from running for a leadership position. "Had the entire membership been given the choice to consider my ideas and still rejected me, I would not feel my basic rights had been violated," he said. Palsrok said he hopes the College and Christian Fellowship will consider allowing anyone, regardless of his or her sexual orientation, to at least stand election.

Ron Liebowitz, provost of the College, said he respected the right of a religious organization to secure its beliefs, but believed Palsrok should have been allowed on the ballot so that the whole organization could consider his point of view. "That is the essence of democracy," he said. "And open discourse is what our community is built upon."

The Christian Fellowship defends its actions, saying that a religious organization must be able to choose leaders who will preserve the beliefs of that organization. "If a religious organization isn't able to choose leaders based on beliefs, it ceases to have an identity as a religious organization," said Student Leader Johanna Mailloux. Computer Science Professor Matthew Dickerson, who is the faculty advisor to the organization, said that the Christian Fellowship was founded on "an orthodox historical understanding of scripture," and Palsrok's interpretation of scripture is not in agreement with that orthodox tradition.

The Fellowship opens its general membership to any person on cam-

(see Student, page 6)

A prayer for hope

Josh Nothwang

At a prayer vigil in Mead Chapel on Monday, *Seniors Katie Lichtenstein and Negar Ashtari discuss Middlebury's relief efforts in Mozambique with Chaplain Laurie Jordan and other concerned students.*

McCardell joins sweatshop monitor despite concerns

By Nicole Miller
News Editor

President McCardell announced his intentions to align Middlebury College with the Worker's Rights Consortium (WRC) at the town meeting last Thursday night. The decision came eight days after the Middlebury College Apparel Manufacturer's Code of Conduct committee presented the president with a proposal recommending the alignment.

McCardell said that joining with the WRC "is in the best interest of the College."

"It will be far better to make long term assessments about the organization by observing close-hand what they have to offer," he said.

A delegation including Eric Davis, secretary of the College, Bob Santry, manager of the College Store, a member of the Middlebury Anti-Sweatshop Coalition (MASC), and a member of the editorial staff of the Middlebury Campus newspaper will be attending WRC's founding conference on April 7-8 in New York City.

McCardell said that he hopes the delegation "will be representative of the College" and will provide a "full and fair report of what it sees" at the meeting.

Alex Zwerdling '00, speaking on behalf of MASC, said that they "want what's best for Middlebury in this process."

"It is very important to have the legitimate questions that both MASC and President McCardell have raised, answered," he said. "The primary concern is making sure that the College is aware that this is a professional organization and that they are committed to doing something for the workers and for the college."

In a letter to Maria Roeper at the WRC, McCardell outlined the provisional nature of the College's alignment with the organization. He explained a number of conditions, making it explicit that the College does not "grant blanket permission for the use of its name by the WRC or any of the WRC's 'endorsing' individuals, organizations" or candidates for public office. The letter also states that the College "reserves the right to grant or withhold that permission on a case by case basis."

In response to these concerns, Zwerdling said that he can "understand President McCardell's reluctance to a certain extent" but also appreciates "the fact that he is taking what may seem to him as a bold step . . . but one he won't forget."

McCardell also made it clear that no later than March 31, 2001, the College will evaluate its continued membership in the WRC "on the basis of [the delegation's] assessment of the group's activities over the next year."

In its evaluation, the College plans to look specifically at issues of WRC's governance, monitoring process and fiscal structure.

Despite the provisional nature, Zwerdling is very optimistic about Middlebury's decision.

"By joining the WRC, Middlebury is part of a historic initiative," he said, "and I hope that coming out of the meeting we can prove to the administration and the college at large that they are really doing something that's very notable."

The WRC is a monitoring orga-

(see College, page 6)

Xenia, Japanese houses achieve residential status

By Ashley Elpern
Staff Writer

President McCardell approved Community Council's recommendation that Xenia and the Japanese students be granted residential status last week. The two groups had been waiting for his decision since the Community Council recommended in January they receive living space. Community Council and McCardell rejected the Russian language students and the Gender Studies Program residential status.

"It's totally a dream come true!" said Xenia member Jess Pasko '00. Xenia will reside in Bowker House, with living space for six members.

"The world is open to us now that we are a social house with our own house," Pasko said.

"Now Xenia can have spontaneity and flexibility to plan events, which before wasn't an option," said Pasko. "We have a common space to live in, and I'm excited to see how close our group will become. In the past few days, it's like we have a new commitment to each other."

Emi Kubota '02 headed the group of Japanese students asking for residential status. "We are so excited that the Japanese house has become a reality," Kubota said. "Now the department is looking for a native speaking Teaching Advisor to live in the house with the students."

Kubota noted that the house would be under review for a year, but is confident that it will succeed. "Now we will be able to create more enthusiasm for the Japanese language program," she said.

McCardell supported the recommendation of the Community Council and decided in favor of the Xenia and Japanese houses. "In every instance I accepted the recommendation of the Community Council, which studied each request in great detail, and supported each recommendation with a quite substantial rationale," said McCardell.

"The Community Council, and I, will certainly take the benefits claimed by the applicants into account as their status as a house is reviewed," he said.

Dean of students, Ann Hanson, faculty chair of Community Council, was enthusiastic about the Xenia House and the Japanese House. "They both developed proposals that were excellent," said Hanson. "The Japanese language house proposal has an ambitious plan with lots of good ideas and strong support from students, faculty, and staff. Xenia had provisional status for a year, and the group has had recognition for several years. We (Community Council) felt that they should be supported in this way."

Hanson said that she believes that both houses will positively contribute to the Middlebury Community and will "provide additional options for those interested in either being a member of the social house or studying the Japanese language."

The Community Council denied status for a Russian House because, according to Hanson,

(see Russian, page 2)

Peter Huoppi

Bowker House will provide a substance-free living environment for Xenia.

Inside...
Shapira analyzes Worker's Rights Consortium form and function
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In Depth
An architectural tour through Middlebury's campus
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Sports
Plattsburgh dashes hope of a sixth men's hockey championship
page 24

Controversy floods DailyJolt forum, stirs questions of liability

By Alison Hertel
Staff Writer

Recently there has been some question regarding the appropriateness of some of the messages posted in the Middlebury DailyJolt's forum. Students have raised concerns both because names have been mentioned and because some of the subjects discussed are questionable in content. The students responsible for the Web site, Marc Zelnick '00, Zach Tofias '00 and David Cohen '01, have declined to remove the offensive messages. Tofias said, "meaningful discussion is better than no discussion."

Some messages promote discussion on such topics as the commons, social houses, sweat shop labor and pong tables. Other messages are more questionable in their content. Some of the more questionable message headings are "March for Pussy!", "Hottest Kids at Middlebury," "Picks for 5 Hottest" and "Whorehouse."

Under the heading of "Whorehouse" one student writes, "Where can we find a whorehouse around the Middlebury area?" Another student writes back, "You should have tried one of the social houses last night." The messages continue in this vein and also names particular social houses.

A message titled "D8" discusses the members of the D8 being "so well hung."

Some students have said they found these sorts of messages upsetting.

Ann Hanson, dean of students, said, "I talked to two students who were disappointed by the language used on the Web site and believed it was very inappropriate."

President McCardell said, "If it becomes a place simply to rant or to exhibit juvenile thinking, it will quickly cease to be of interest to our students."

"I do not read it regularly, but I have been disappointed in some of the comments," said Hanson. "It brings to mind two important and sometimes contradictory values—the belief in free speech and value of decency."

The Middlebury DailyJolt is not directly affiliated with the college. Cohen said, "It's a private company. We happen to be Middlebury students." Because the Middlebury DailyJolt is a private company, it does not have to follow the policies of the Middlebury College Handbook.

President McCardell said, "It is not an 'official' college site, and the College neither views the items expressed on the site as official nor intends to interfere with their expression."

The DailyJolt Forum Policy states, "We ask you not to post to the forums anything that is libelous, defamatory, obscene, pornographic or abusive, or that otherwise violates any law…While we do not and cannot review every message posted in the forums and are not responsible for the content of these messages, we reserve the right to delete, move, or edit messages that we deem abusive, defamatory, obscene, in violation of copyright or trademark laws, or otherwise unacceptable."

On March 12, 2000, Tofias posted a message titled "Forum protocol" in the Middlebury forum. The message states, "The DailyJolt would like to remind our users to be respectful of one another. The DailyJolt has purposely not adopted a blanket policy of censorship because we feel that meaningful discussion is better than no discussion."

"That really sums up our stance," said Tofias.

The message then directed students to read the content policy developed by the Middlebury DailyJolt in addition to the DailyJolt Forum Policy.

The Middlebury DailyJolt has a forum disclaimer that was originally posted on December 5, 1999. On Sunday, a message reminding users of the disclaimer was posted in the forum.

The Disclaimer states, "You, and not the DailyJolt, are entirely responsible for all Content that you upload, post, email or otherwise transmit via the Service. The DailyJolt does not control the Content posted via the Service and, as such, does not guarantee the accuracy, integrity or quality of such Content. The DailyJolt, Inc, uses its best efforts to maintain. By using the Service, you may be exposed to Content that is offensive, indecent or objectionable. Under no circumstances will the DailyJolt be liable in any way for any Content, including, but not limited to, any errors or omissions in any content, or any loss or damage of any kind incurred as a result of the use of any Content posted, e-mailed or otherwise transmitted via the Service, or any other consequential damages."

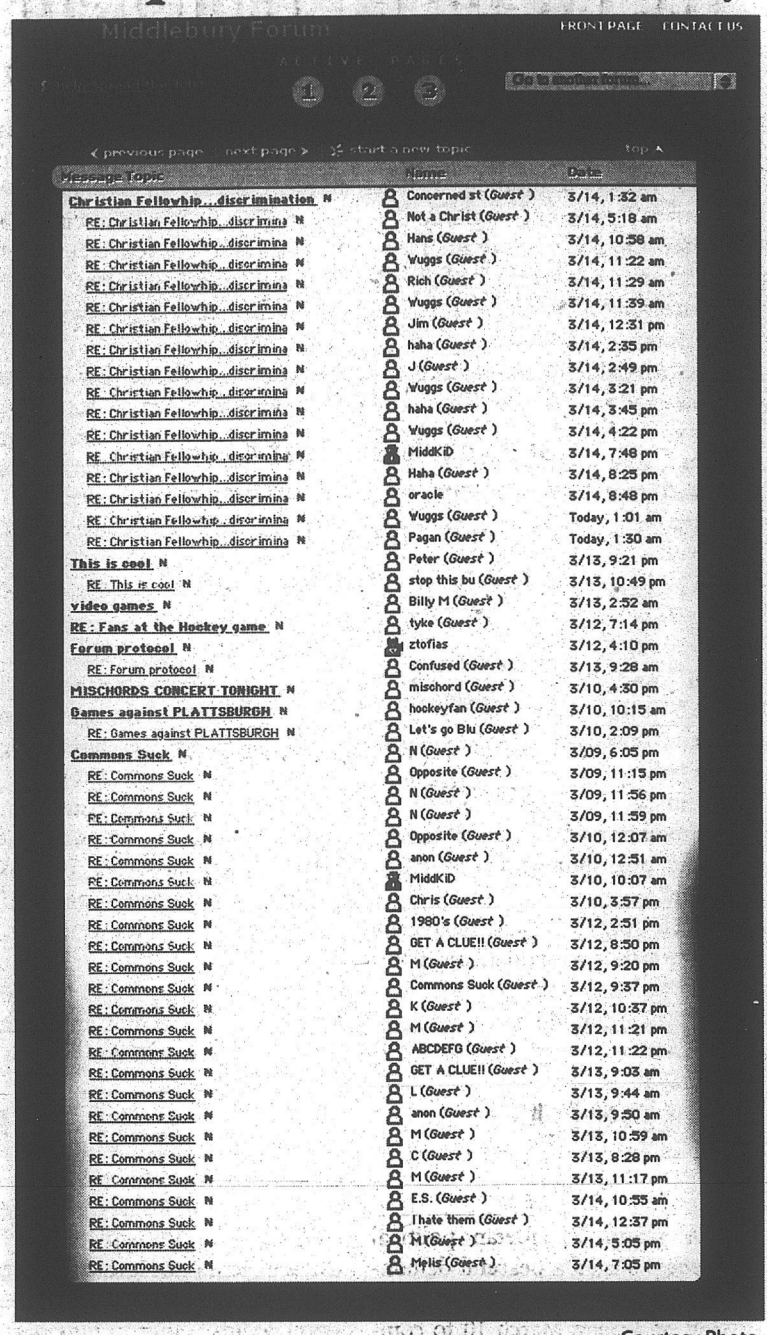
Tofias said that a substantial percentage of the school uses the DailyJolt.

Emi Kubota '02 said, "I responded to the binge drinking question. I posted my response. I liked that it was anonymous . . . People keep things way to comfortable around here."

"I don't see this as a controversy. A controversy by definition means that there's a lengthy dialogue that has occurred," said Tofias. "A lengthy dialogue has not occurred between us and anybody else. This is the first that anybody has brought to my knowledge a problem with it."

Tofias said that any students with complaints should come to him or his partners before going to the administration. Students can

(see Online, page 4)


Middlebury Forum
FRONT PAGE
CONTACT US
previous page
next page
start a new topic
top
Message Topic
Name
Date
Christian Fellowship...discrimination
Concerned st (Guest) 3/14, 1:52 am
Not a Christ (Guest) 3/14, 5:18 am
Hans (Guest) 3/14, 10:58 am
Wuggs (Guest) 3/14, 11:22 am
Rich (Guest) 3/14, 11:29 am
Wuggs (Guest) 3/14, 11:39 am
Jim (Guest) 3/14, 12:31 pm
haha (Guest) 3/14, 2:35 pm
J (Guest) 3/14, 2:49 pm
Wuggs (Guest) 3/14, 3:21 pm
haha (Guest) 3/14, 3:45 pm
Wuggs (Guest) 3/14, 4:22 pm
MiddKID 3/14, 7:48 pm
Haha (Guest) 3/14, 8:25 pm
oracle 3/14, 8:48 pm
Wuggs (Guest) Today, 1:01 am
Pagan (Guest) Today, 1:30 am
This is cool
Peter (Guest) 3/13, 9:21 pm
video games
stop this bu (Guest) 3/13, 10:49 pm
RE: Fans at the Hockey game
Billy M (Guest) 3/13, 2:52 am
Forum protocol
tyke (Guest) 3/12, 7:14 pm
ztofias 3/12, 4:10 pm
MISCHORDS CONCERT TONIGHT
Confused (Guest) 3/13, 9:28 am
Games against PLATTSBURGH
mischord (Guest) 3/10, 4:30 pm
Commons Suck
hockeyfan (Guest) 3/10, 10:15 am
Let's go Blu (Guest) 3/10, 2:09 pm
N (Guest) 3/09, 6:05 pm
Opposite (Guest) 3/09, 11:15 pm
N (Guest) 3/09, 11:56 pm
N (Guest) 3/09, 11:59 pm
Opposite (Guest) 3/10, 12:07 am
anon (Guest) 3/10, 12:51 am
MiddKID 3/10, 10:07 am
Chris (Guest) 3/10, 3:57 pm
1980's (Guest) 3/12, 2:51 pm
GET A CLUE!! (Guest) 3/12, 8:50 pm
M (Guest) 3/12, 9:20 pm
Commons Suck (Guest) 3/12, 9:37 pm
K (Guest) 3/12, 10:37 pm
M (Guest) 3/12, 11:21 pm
ABCDEFG (Guest) 3/12, 11:22 pm
GET A CLUE!! (Guest) 3/13, 9:03 am
L (Guest) 3/13, 9:44 am
anon (Guest) 3/13, 9:50 am
M (Guest) 3/13, 10:59 am
C (Guest) 3/13, 8:28 pm
M (Guest) 3/13, 11:17 pm
E.S. (Guest) 3/14, 10:55 am
I hate them (Guest) 3/14, 12:37 pm
M (Guest) 3/14, 5:05 pm
Melis (Guest) 3/14, 7:05 pm

Courtesy Photo

Some controversy has surrounded the Middlebury DailyJolt forum.

Russian, gender studies denied residential space

(continued from page 1)

"There was a concerned that there were only a few students studying the Russian language. We want to encourage this kind of house, but we are also concerned that the number of students studying the language may not support the goal of being able to fill the house. We want the house to be for language learners, and not just for native speakers."

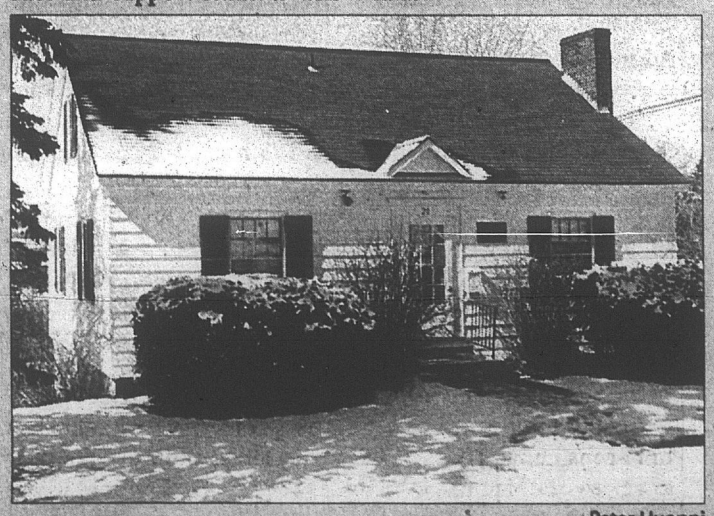
The Gender Studies Program was also denied residential status, and also had its administrative space taken away. "The community has many space demands and many initiatives are being proposed," said Hanson. "The Gender Studies House group was not active in the Fall, and only modestly active in the Winter at the time of the review.

"We believe that they did not have a successful review and felt that other demands were more pressing at this time. The Community Council however, wants the College to continue to support consideration of gender issues and support students who are studying these interests. We did not feel the gender studies academic interest house was the best means to offer support at this time," Hanson said.

"The decision of the Community Council doesn't give us much room to work within," said Elizabeth Sanfelippo '02, President of the Gender Studies group and the non-residential RA. "It is hard for us to organize and function like an Academic Interest House without the everyday interaction that other houses have."

"It would be nice if there were someone there at all times for people who want to talk to someone, to read in our library, or to just have somewhere to go. Now people can't get in when they want to because it is often locked."

Sanfelippo is passionate about the Gender Studies House. "There is so much to be done in the area of gender studies, and it is frustrating for our group to be enthusiastic due to the many obstacles that we must face," she said.



Peter Huoppi

20 Adirondack View is the future home of the Japanese language house.

SGA Briefs

By Alison Hertel
Staff Writer

Jeff Rehbach, Director of ITS, spoke about the upgrades being made to the Middlebury network at the Senate meeting on Sunday. He discussed plans to update students' e-mail accounts to provide alternatives to Pine beginning next fall. Online grades and financial status should be available as part of students' financial status when they register of classes this spring.

The Ratification Committee ratified the Publications Committee on March 7. The Senate passed the guidelines of the Publications Committee at Sunday's meeting. The guidelines were passed to give direction to the committee in its review of student publications.

Bob Santry, Manager of the College Bookstore, announced new bookstore hours:
Beginning April 1, Saturday hours will be extended to 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Starting next fall the weekday hours will be extended to 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

David Paul, Treasurer and Chair of Finance Committee, presented the Finance Committee's Mid-Year Report to the Senate on Sunday.

SGA President, Dana Dunleavy, and David Cohen had a meeting Monday with Vermont State Legislators and members of the administration to explore legislative options about Vermont State alcohol policy.

The budgeting process for student organizations is rapidly approaching. Information packets will be in student leader mailboxes the Monday after Spring Break.

Ice cream entrepreneur relates company strategy

By Becky Ruby
Staff Writer

Ben Cohen, co-founder of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, spoke to the Middlebury community on Tuesday, March 14, as part of the David K. Smith Economic lecture series. His talk, entitled "Enlightened Business and Social Progress," examined the ways in which business can, and should, give back to the community. Cohen spoke of the need to redefine the term "business." He said that business should be a "combination of organized human energy, plus money, which equals power."

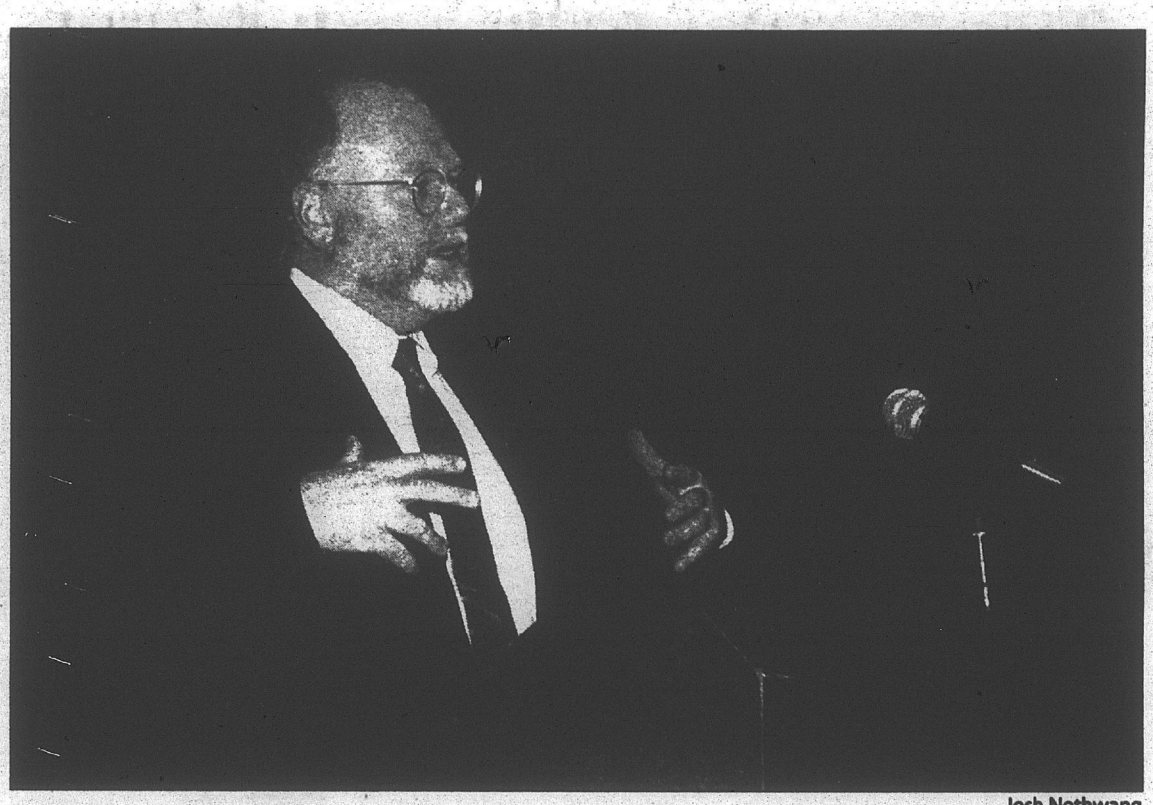
According to Cohen, businesses are the most powerful forces in the world today, and the voice of business leaders should be used for social good.

Cohen explained that business must learn to integrate two bottom lines: profits and improvements in the quality of life in society. He said Ben & Jerry's was an example of this integration and of "social innovation along with flavor innovation."

Cohen spoke of the several ways in which Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream attempts to improve the quality of life of society. He said that the ice cream flavor Chocolate Fudge Brownie contains brownies made by an inner city bakery in New York City. The bakery employs homeless people in need of jobs and job training.

Cohen explained that business must learn to integrate two bottom lines: profits and improvements in the quality of life in society. He said Ben & Jerry's was an example of this integration and of "social innovation along with flavor innovation."

Ben & Jerry's also uses non-bleached paper to package its ice cream and buys its milk and cream from small Vermont dairy farms.



Josh Nothwang
Vermont's own Ben Cohen, of Ben & Jerry's fame, spoke yesterday as part of an Economics Department lecture series.

"Our country needs to learn to measure its strength…in terms of how many people we can feed, clothe, house, and care for," said Cohen.

Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream began in an old gas station in Burlington, and currently operates out of a factory in Waterbury.

Cohen said Ben & Jerry's has been promoting socially responsible business from the beginning. He spoke of his work with the Business Leaders for Sensible Priorities, an organization that encourages the government to spend less money on the military and more money on education and on poverty relief. Cohen is the president of the organization.

Sunder Ramaswamy, chair of the Economics department, thought the talk was "terrific." He said that Cohen's story was a "useful personal story."

"You can have some knocks in life and do very well," he said.

Eleanor Tutwiler '02, a stockholder in Ben & Jerry's, said she came to the lecture because she wanted to "support a grassroots organization that's doing something good for the community."

Maria Young '02 said "Sentiment like Ben's is something that makes me proud to be a Vermonter."

Cohen spoke in the annual David K. Smith lecture series focusing on applied economics.

The series was established in honor of Professor Emeritus of Economics David K. Smith, who was a member of the College Economics department from 1950 to 1988.

Tibetan refugees gather, commemorate uprising

By Tim McCahill
Opinions Editor

A group of Tibetan political refugees staged a peaceful demonstration in front of Burlington City Hall on Friday, March 10 to commemorate the lives of monks who died in an uprising against the Chinese government in 1959. Tenzim Wangyal '03.5, who is Tibetan, attended the demonstration.

March 10, generally referred to as "Uprising Day," is commemorated by Tibetan exiles worldwide. Sizable exile communities such as those in India and Nepal often demonstrate fiercely in front of Chinese diplomatic missions. Friday's demonstration, by contrast, was quiet and consisted of members of Burlington's estimated 60 Tibetan refugees. The group met initially in front of city hall at 10 a.m. More demonstrators then arrived dressed in traditional Tibetan clothing.

The group sang the Tibetan national anthem and prayed silently for one minute in commemoration of Tibetan human rights victims.

The mayor of Burlington made a speech praising the work of Tibetan exiles in Vermont. He said they were an integral part of the state's immigrant community.

A member of the exile community then read aloud from the Dalai Lama's annual speech on the significance of Uprising Day. An hour-long demonstration around the downtown area of Burlington followed the reading.

The Dalai Lama's statement reported on progress made by the Tibetan government in exile, located in the northern Indian town of Dharmasala, to "[build] bridges with our overseas Chinese brothers and sisters" and of its disapproval of "unabated influx of Chinese immigrants to Tibet." The Dalai Lama referred to this trend as a "policy of cultural genocide."

The Chinese Communist Party has historically viewed Tibet as an integral part of China, despite coming under fire from Western governments that claim the province has a long established history of independence dating from before Chinese control of the area in 1959. Controversial negotiations for greater autonomy are pending between the Dalai Lama and the Chinese government.

Wangyal '03.5 spent his childhood years in a Tibetan exile community in southern India and later attended a Tibetan school in Dharmasala.

Wangyal spent his childhood years in a Tibetan exile community in southern India and later attended a Tibetan school in Dharmasala. He said "Middlebury students should take a leading role" in regards to the Tibet question, and that "every individual can make a difference."

He said that he hoped that as a younger generation of Chinese men and women begin to occupy key positions in government and diplomacy, negotiations between the Tibetan exile government and the Communist Party might re-commence in earnest.

Ngawang Choephel, a former Fulbright scholar who studied at Middlebury between 1993 and 1994, was sentenced for spying to eighteen years in a court in central Tibet three years ago. The College's Students for a Free Tibet has hosted a number of events since Choephel's sentencing in order to raise awareness of his cause on campus. His health and living conditions remain unknown.

Tenzin Wangyal
Tibetan political refugees demonstrated in front of Burlington City Hall last Friday in honor of Uprising Day.

Student elected auditor of town of Middlebury

By Raegan Randolph
Associate Editor

Matt Napiltonia '01 was elected Middlebury town auditor in a write-in campaign Tuesday, March 7.

Napiltonia, 28, decided to run for the three-year position after he went to vote at noon Town Meeting Day and observed there were no candidates for town auditor on the ballot. He rushed back to his dorm room and typed up campaign fliers to distribute outside the polls. As residents came to vote, Napiltonia explained who he was and how to vote for a write-in candidate.

"People knew who I was from the articles in the Campus and the Addison Independent," said Napiltonia, who sparked local interest last year when he and his twin brother Joe enrolled at Middlebury after spending six years as Navy SEALs.

Napiltonia won the election with 173 votes. The combined number of votes for all other write-in candidates was 150.

This is not the first time Napiltonia has run for public office. In 1998 he ran for state representative in his home state of Pennsylvania. Napiltonia said he had been considering running for a town office but did not want to run against an incumbent or someone well established in the community. When he went to the polls and saw the seat open on the ballot, he jumped at the chance.

"I wanted to get involved in the community," he said.

Napiltonia does not expect his new, non-paid position to be very time-consuming. The town's three elected auditors meet once a year to review the reports of separate, professional auditors who keep track of the town's accounts.

Napiltonia was sworn into office Wednesday, March 8, coincidentally his 28th birthday.

Town meeting facilitates dialogue between McCardell, students

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

At the first Town Meeting of the spring on Thursday, March 9, President McCardell announced several recent decisions made by the administration and answered questions posed by students.

Setting what appeared to be a positive tone for the evening, McCardell offered support for several student initiatives, including the Mozambique relief effort, the Middlebury Anti-Sweatshop Coalition, and Xenia.

"It's like Christmas morning," he said in response to several rounds of student applause.

McCardell opened the meeting by voicing his support for the student effort to aid flood victims in Mozambique. He offered to make possible a trip to Mozambique for interested students to help the victims directly.

He then announced that the College will align with the sweatshop monitoring group the Workers' Rights Consortium for a provisional period of one year.

Jonathan Shapira '02 spoke against the WRC, proposing instead that the College align with the Fair Labor Association (FLA).

Alex Zwerdling '00 of MASC said in response that the FLA is not a suitable monitoring group because it has corporate ties. The College's Code of Conduct policy regarding sweatshops states that a monitoring group chosen by the College cannot have corporate ties.

McCardell said he encouraged such debate on the issue.

"Let a thousand flowers of debate bloom in the next year," he said. "That's what places like this should be about."

Members of Xenia asked McCardell about the status of their petition for a residential house. McCardell announced that the decision had been made and that Xenia had received a house.

Students asked McCardell about his opinion of the parking situation on campus and whether there was a real problem. McCardell said that there was "a shortage of convenient parking spaces" but not necessarily a shortage of the number of spaces.

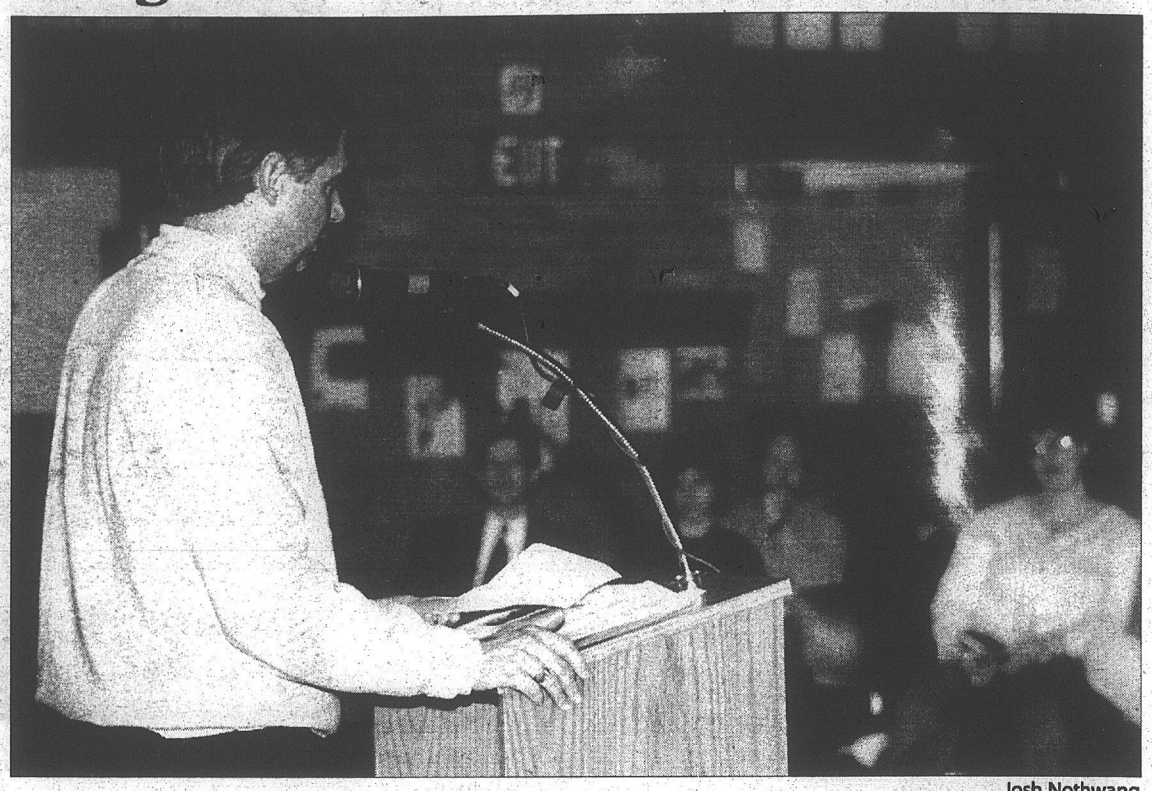
One student suggested adding a speaker on date rape to the orientation program for first-years and Febs.

A student commented on the inconvenience of the Science Library hours during spring break. Secretary of the College Eric Davis said that the hours would be extended. Davis also said that next year the Science Library in Bicentennial Hall will have the same hours as Starr Library.

Other topics discussed included the lack of options and the difficulty of obtaining protein for vegans and vegetarians in the dining halls. Head of Dining Services Pete Napolitano said that Middining was currently trying to increase the percentage of vegetarian options in the dining halls from the current 15 to 18 percent to 25 percent.

Members of Hillel thanked McCardell and the College for supporting their efforts to engage a rabbi that they will share with the local Jewish congregation.

The meeting ended with proposals on how to make the next Town Meeting more successful. Students suggested putting up more signs to advertise, or to not have the meeting during the period of midterms. McCardell proposed an informal dinner in Lower Proctor with a question-and-answer session to follow.



Josh Nothwang

President McCardell fields questions from concerned students at last Thursday's Town Meeting in McCullough.

Midd Briefs

By Nicole Miller and Lindsay Frost
News Editors

Floor plans, room draw information online

The Office of Residential Life has placed floor plans for all residence halls and houses as well as general room draw information online.

Paige Budelsky, associate director of residential life, said that this is the first year that floor plans have been online. The new system replaces the old method of posting floor plans outside of the College Store.

"I hope that it will be easier for all students, just to get the information out," said Budelsky.

In addition, Budelsky said that the information online will be able to be updated easily if necessary.

Budelsky said the initiative for putting the information online came from a recommendation made by the SGA last year on how to improve room draw.

Budelsky said she will send a campus-wide e-mail and voice mail to officially announce to students that information is available online.

Bicentennial Hall wins "Lab of the Year" award

Bicentennial Hall recently received the "Lab of the Year 2000" award from Cahner's R&D Magazine. The award is given annually to a facility in the field of science and engineering.

The award "recognizes the best new and renovated laboratories that combine all aspects of the building into a superior working environment."

R&D Magazine is a scientific and technical magazine that serves research scientists, engineers and members of technical staffs.

Bicentennial Hall will be featured on the cover of the magazine and a story about the facility will be included in the same issue.

Associate Dean of Faculty James Larrabee went to New Orleans to accept the award.

College to hire rabbi

The college announced that it plans to hire a rabbi that will serve the Jewish community in both the college and the town. According to college chaplain, Laurie Jordan, the projects had been in the works for a long time, and a proposal was officially submitted to President McCardell in December.

"Other schools have taken this step many years ago, and it is time for Middlebury to," said Jordan. "We have a significant Jewish population that is active and will benefit from leadership and need in the town that can be partnered together which is part of the reason why this is coming together now."

The announcement of the College's search for a rabbi has been sent out to various rabbinical schools and placement centers. A committee is being formed that will interview various candidates for the position.

Jordan said that they hope to find someone to take over the position by the beginning of the next school year.

According to the job criteria, the school is looking for someone who can "educate the whole campus community about Jewish religion and culture in coordination with the student affairs staff through creative religious observance, counseling, programming events, and teaching efforts outside the classroom."

McCardell offers funds for trip to Mozambique

At the town meeting last Thursday, President McCardell announced his plan to fund spring break trips to Mozambique for interested students to help with flood relief efforts. Since then, he realized that students would have to take too many shots before departure that could have detrimental effects to their performance on midterm exams. For that reason, the college has reorganized its plan and now intends to send students this spring, following final exams.

Currently, McCardell said that a possible sponsor from Salsbury, who has visited Mozambique on several occasions to help in relief efforts, may travel with the group of students and help them organize their efforts.

Anyone who is interested in participating in the trip will have to write a one to two page statement about why they want to go and what they would add to the team.

Jen Crystal '00.5 said that they will be looking at criteria such as first aid training, physical well-being, Portuguese or French language abilities and the understanding of the risks involved. For more information contact the college chaplain, Laurie Jordan.

Online forum heightens concerns over decency

(continued from page 2)

reach Tofias, Cohen or Zelnick via e-mail.

"This isn't an issue that actually pertains to the school," said Tofias.

Zelnick said, "There is also a difference between controversial subject matter and an on going controversy concerning the site, and I think that's where some of the confusion lies."

Cohen said, "When they (students) take offense to it (a message) what appears to be the response is them posting themselves, expressing why they find it offensive rather than coming to us because nobody's come to us."

"Nobody has contacted myself, David or Marc." Tofias said. "None of us are defending or condoning any of the words that appear on the forum and I don't want this framed as a first amendment rights issue. This is an issue where somebody said something that I found inappropriate. I didn't take it down because there were responses that were much more eloquent than my pulling it off the net would have ever been."

In a prepared statement, Jeff Rehbach, director of Information Technology Services said, "Although Mr. Tofias's claim that meaningful discussion is better than no discussion, I personally am embarrassed that some individuals, presumably affiliated with Middlebury College, may find the Pussy forum meaningful, and hence continue to contribute to it. Since DailyJolt indicates that its Forum service is not to be used in objectionable ways, I would, if asked, advise those responsible for the DailyJolt to remove this Forum topic, and simply explain that too many of the postings violate the site's policy…"

Zelnick, Tofias and Cohen said that the Middlebury DailyJolt is designed for use of Middlebury students. However, the site is open to anyone who chooses to access it. Christina Capone '00 said, "A small college environment, wherein the student body largely knows each other by face, is in and of itself a conduit for gossip. However, that students are gossiping about other students on-line in a Middlebury student forum seems unnecessarily mean-spirited. At this point in post-adolescence, the golden rule of respecting others with the expectation of reciprocal treatment can no longer be foisted on some warped consciences. However, prospective students visit the DailyJolt to conjure a sense of what's on Middlebury student's minds. If all they come across is slander, their impression may likely be, 'Not much.'"

> **…the golden rule of respecting others…can no longer be foisted on some warped consciences… Prospective students visit the DailyJolt to conjure a sense of what's on Middlebury students' minds. If all they come across is slander, their impression may likely be, 'not much.'**
>
> **—Christina Capone '00**

ISES inspectors evaluate, tour on-campus facilities

By Jon White
Staff Writer

Engineers and architects from an Atlanta-based company known as ISES arrived at Middlebury College on Monday, March 6, to begin a facilities conditions audit.

The employees of ISES are professionals who travel to colleges nationwide and evaluate the structural condition of campus buildings.

According to Jon Woodbury, director of Facilities Management, at Middlebury ISES will conduct investigations of both academic and residential buildings. The Mill and KDR are the only social houses that will be reviewed while new buildings, such as Bicentennial Hall and Kenyon Arena, will be left out of the ISES study.

Woodbury mentioned that a building's shell (the roof, windows, and exterior walls), as well as its MEP infrastructure, are the primary areas of focus for ISES evaluation. A building's MEP infrastructure includes its mechanical, electric, and plumbing systems. ISES will also check Middlebury's compliance with national building standards.

Woodbury said that ISES had completed over 50 percent of its investigation by Tuesday afternoon. ISES should wrap up the majority of its business at Middlebury by Friday after a two-week period of assessment. Nonetheless, further consultations and visits from ISES staff can be expected at Middlebury until the end of April.

This is the first professional facilities audit in over two decades, although George Whitney, facilities director, noted that Middlebury conducted its own private study of building conditions in the early 1980s.

Both Whitney and Woodbury said that the ISES visit should not alarm students or staff into thinking that campus buildings are substandard. Both stated that the purpose of the ISES visit is to gather data that will determine whether or not certain buildings are in need of renovation or replacement.

By determining those buildings requiring structural attention, the information released by ISES will permit Middlebury to estimate the cost of building repair. While Woodbury and Whitney noted that buildings on campus are in excellent condition, Woodbury emphasized the purpose of ISES by saying, "ISES will give the college an understanding of what it needs to do to keep facilities top notch."

Whitney said that Middlebury chose to go through with the ISES evaluation based on the company's "expertise" and Middlebury's desire "to bring in a new set of eyes" to the process of planning and reviewing its facilities.

The results of the study and the financial considerations generated by its assessment will figure into the college's long and short-term budget for facilities.

In light of proposals to expand or move the Starr Library and replace the Fletcher Field House, Whitney cites the ISES recommendations as critical components of the college's financial planning for new facilities.

Each time Middlebury constructs a new building, it sets aside funds for the building's structural maintenance, renovation, and replacement. ISES will help the facilities staff plan for capital expenditures involved in modernizing existing buildings and in making sure the college's buildings remain compatible with national and state building codes.

Woodbury said that he denied that specific buildings were singled out for renovation and evaluation by ISES. He said that the visit does not target certain Middlebury buildings, but rather that it is a study that encompasses nearly all buildings on campus regardless of age and perceived condition.

The ISES visit should have little impact on students although the commons staff have all sent out notification to their members concerning the presence of ISES staff on campus.

Andrew Corrigan

Carl Turner and Walden Brown are members of ISES, a facilities inspection company touring campus this week.

ISO symposium explores ethno-nationalism, new world order

By Ron Schildge
Staff Writer

The International Students Organization (ISO) presented their sixth annual symposium "The New World Disorder? Ethno-nationalism in the 21st Century" on March 10 and 11.

The symposium consisted of three lectures, a panel discussion held in the Geonomics House, and a dinner in Redfield Proctor.

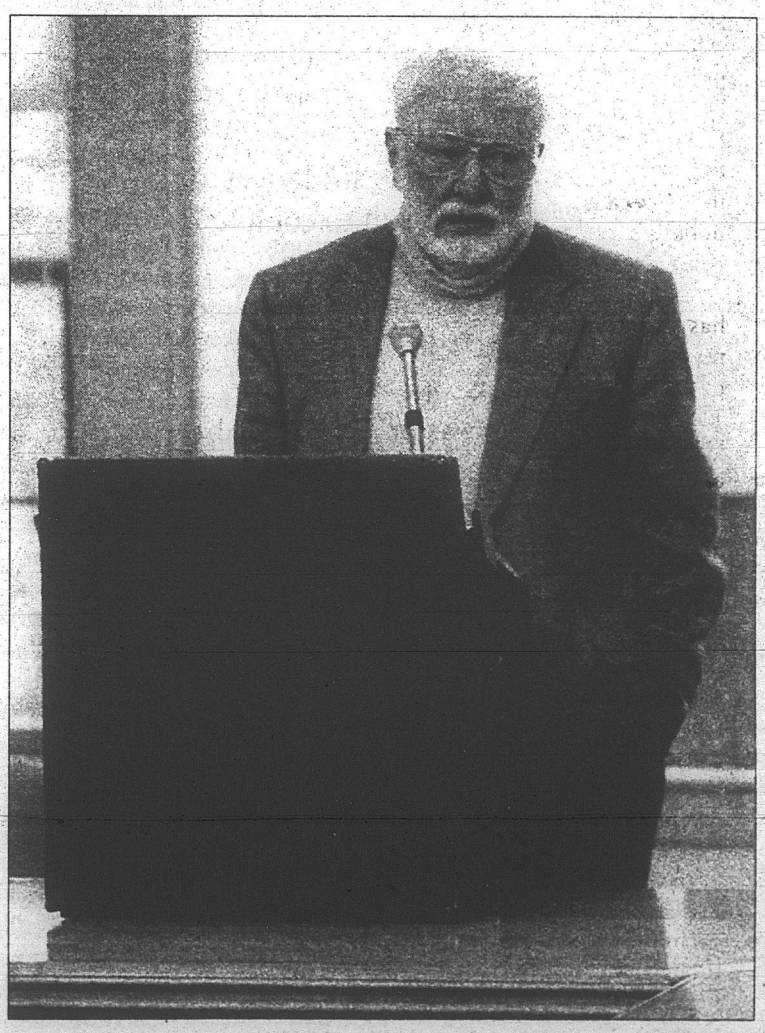
The ISO symposium is a student-led event. The co-chairs of the Symposium Committee were Kevin Coll '01.5 and Vishnu Vasudev '01.

"The most impressive aspect of the ISO was that it was put together by students. It shows that students have real world interests that go beyond their classes," said Peter Dixon '01.5.

In past years, the ISO symposium has brought together speakers, panelists, performers and guests from both outside and inside the College.

Walker Connor, a scholar-in-residence at the College, opened the symposium with his lecture "Ethno-nationalism and Tomorrow's Political Map."

He began by defining ethno-nationalism as the loyalty to a nationality rather than to a state. He said this understanding of nationalism found among people of common ancestry helps to explain the ethnic conflicts within countries.



Mike Kautz

Walker Connor lectures on Friday during the sixth annual ISO symposium.

The most impressive aspect of the ISO was that it was put together by students. It shows that students have real world interests that go beyond their classes.
—Peter Dixon '01.5

Connor addressed the issue of separatists and asked whether these ethno-nationalists have the right to declare the sovereignty of their homeland. He suggested appeasing them with increased autonomy rather than granting their demands.

"On ethno-nationalism and nationalism, he made a very valid point," said Brendan McCauley '02.

Raymond Taras, a professor of Political Science at Tulane University, spoke on Saturday on "The Nationalizing International System and the Nature of Conflict."

Taras questioned the destabilizing power of nationalism. Giving a summary of the 20th century, he suggested that nationalism was not to blame for many conflicts.

He also addressed the nature of the 'collective-self' into which people group themselves, and its shift from a larger scope to more narrow groups.

Jacques Alain Contant of Quebec's Parti Quebecois gave the second lecture on Saturday entitled "From Resentment to Insecurity through Self-Affirmation: the Transformation of Quebec Nationalism."

According to Contant, the national identity of the French-speaking citizens of Quebec creates a strange separation from the rest of Canada. In 1995, 49.4 percent of the electorate voted yes to sovereignty, bringing this national identity into its own country.

The lecture was followed by a panel discussion moderated by Connor. Panelists included the three speakers as well as Walid Saleh, instructor in Religion, David Stoll, assistant professor of Sociology/Anthropology, Marius Campean '00 and Adil Husain '01.

The focus revolved around Quebec's nationalism as well as questions of separatism for ethno-national groups.

"It was a lively and engaging discussion," said Adam Schildge '01.5.

Michael Kraus, professor of Political Science, said, "The ISO is to be congratulated for the successful and stimulating symposium that brought out many students and faculty to discuss one of the greatest forces in the 20th century: nationalism."

Angela's Italian Restaurant

Specials:
Mon - 2 Buck Night

Tue - Ladies' Night

Wed - Canadian Night
Johny Whatever Group - no cover

Thur - Bone Night

Angela's Upstairs Lounge

Tue - Courtney Brocks
9 pm - 12 am, no cover
Wed - Johny Whatever Group
2 acoustical guitarists and singers
9 pm - 1 am, no cover

Angela's Pub

(entrance to the right by driveway)
Friday - Live Music, 9 pm - 1 am
Saturday - DJ

Great Italian food
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Look for new large pizza
Check Out New Late Night Menu!
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Education Program offers a minor in Teacher Education with leads to certification in 38 states. The job market is very strong, the pay is good. To find out more, contact Bob Prigo, Director of Teacher Education,BIH 515, x5425, prigo@Middlebury.edu.

Student clashes with Christian Fellowship over discrimination

(continued from page 1)
pus, including those practicing or supporting homosexuality.

Palsrok said he disagrees with the position that he was judged on his beliefs alone. According to Palsrok, all religious sects interpret certain parts of the Bible differently. He noted that while Catholics have a slightly different reading of the Bible than Protestants, the Fellowship does not see this difference as disagreement. According to Palsrok, they have "agreed to disagree" on these interpretations of the Bible whereas his own slightly different interpretation is not acknowledged.

Though Palsrok said he agreed that the tradition of Christianity is vital, he contended that "tradition is only a good thing when it breeds love and respect. This [interpretation] is something hurtful and prejudice." Palsrok said he didn't think the Fellowship was founded on the belief that homosexuality is sinful. The Fellowship should distinguish between "what's beautiful and loving and in compliance with the gospel and what isn't."

Complexity of civil and religious values

The complexity of the issue lies in the College's policy of intolerance of discrimination on the basis of both religion and sexual orientation. On the one hand, Christian Fellowship has the right of religious freedom. On the other hand, any person who is gay has the right to be equally considered for leadership positions in the College community. Liebowitz called the clash between these two fundamental rights "one of the most complex issues" our community is facing.

Steven Bertolino '00, a leader of Christian Fellowship, said that when religious freedom and civil rights conflict, "the authority of the Bible wins out in our [the Fellowship's] decision-making."

"There has to be a hierarchy of discrimination," contended Palsrok. "Certain aspects of religion should be trumped by civil rights because that is the lesser of two evils."

Palsrok said that if the Christian Fellowship cannot let all members of the community be put on its leadership ballot, he thinks the Fellowship should no longer be funded by the Student Activities fee. The Student Activities Fee for this school year is 190 dollars and, according to the College Handbook, supports activities that are open to all students. Palsrok contends that the Fellowship's present ability to discriminate violates the Handbook.

Dean David Edelson said there is no question in his mind that the Fellowship violated College Policy. "When all is said and done, a student has been discriminated against, and that's unacceptable," he said. Edelson said he was continuing to wrestle with the rights of Christian Fellowship to hold its own beliefs and the question of civil rights.

Jessica Pasko '01, a friend of Palsrok who has also been a member of Christian Fellowship, said that the fact that this organization has the ability to discriminate and is under the direction of Student Activities is deceiving to students. She added that until last Spring, she had no idea the Fellowship held such views against homosexual lifestyles. "I'd been part of this [organization] for a year and I didn't know they held these beliefs," she said.

What to do?

Palsrok and Pasko approached various College administrators this Fall to discuss the matter. At first, Palsrok did not want to make his situation public, for fear that he would divide the Christian community, but he said he recently came to the conclusion that he needed to "do this [speak publicly] for all the other people like me." He also added that he feels community dialogue is necessary to resolve the issue.

To date several solutions have been discussed by Palsrok, Pasko, Liebowitz, the Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson and Director of Student Activities Tiffany Sargent, College Chaplain Laurie Jordan and the Christian Fellowship Leadership.

Liebowitz, Sargent and Jordan all agreed that the most promising option seems to be to put the operation of all religious organizations on campus under the direction of the College Chaplain's Office. Jordan said that since before the situation at hand, she has been considering recommending that the College put religious organizations under the direction of the Chaplain. "Religion is not like other clubs; it's worthy of someone's ultimate devotion and is a part of a person's identity," Jordan said. She added that the "social structure" of religion is unique and should not be dependent on the strength of its annual leadership or the Finance Committee's limited knowledge about what that particular religion needs.

Both sides said they hope the publicity of this issue will cause students to consider spiritual issues and develop more respect for the strength of religious beliefs.

Liebowitz said that the idea of putting religious organizations under the direction of the Chaplain is "sound" and "feasible" and should be the subject of upcoming community discussions. He continued to say that of twelve schools similar to Middlebury only one or two had the student governments allocating funding to religious organizations, in the other cases the money was allocated directly through student activities or through the Chaplain's office.

Dickerson said he feels the actions of the Fellowship are not unique. Rather, "discrimination exists at every level of our community." He uses the College's singing groups as an example of an organization capable of hidden discrimination. "Every singing group on campus bases their entire membership on genetic abilities…A student who doesn't have the natural ability to sing well can't be a member." To Dickerson, the Fellowship is one of the more open and welcoming groups on campus because anyone can be a member.

Dickerson nevertheless said he had "no objections" to the idea of removing Christian Fellowship, along with other religious organizations, from Student Activities funding. "A religious organization exists for a different purpose than other clubs," he said. "In some ways it [putting religious organizations under the Chaplain's Office] makes more sense."

Another issue that has been considered by the College is the fact that there is no official procedure for a student to file a charge of discrimination. Dean Matthew Longman said this was the first grievance brought to his attention in his seven year tenure at Middlebury. He and Dean Hanson have been formulating a grievance process that, according to Longman, should be in the Handbook next academic year. Longman said they are envisioning a making the process similar to that of Community Judicial Board with a deliberative body made of various members of the community.

The Predicament In-Depth

Unlike most student organizations, the Christian Fellowship does not select its leaders in a direct vote among the general membership. Rather, nominations are solicited from the membership; any person who receives two nominations is then evaluated by the outgoing leadership as well as the advisors of the organization. According to Kerra Struthers, an assistant appointed to Christian Fellowship by their national affiliate, InterVarsity, the leadership considers whether the candidate agrees with the five points of doctrine.

If the outgoing leadership determines that the candidate has potential, they then ask the candidate to affirm his belief in the five points of doctrine. If the candidate does so, the entire fellowship then ratifies the candidate into the position of student leader of the organization, according to Struthers. There is no limit on the number of student leaders the Fellowship can appoint.

According to Struthers, the five points of doctrine are the unique divine inspiration and entire trustworthiness of the Bible; the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ; the necessity and efficacy of the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ for the redemption of the world, and the historic fact of His bodily resurrection; the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the process of regeneration; and the expectation of the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Palsrok was nominated both by a member of the general membership and by one of the outgoing leaders of Christian Fellowship. During the deliberative aspect of the selection process, the leadership discussed Palsrok's views on homosexuality and the outgoing leader decided to withdraw her nomination. According to Student Leader Steve Bertolino, who was present during the deliberation, the nomination was withdrawn because Palsrok "does not agree with the first point of doctrine," the entire trustworthiness of the Bible. Bertolino along with the other leaders of Christian Fellowship contend that the Bible teaches homosexual behavior is a sin in the eyes of God.

Palsrok was not openly gay at the time of the decision. He contends he believes in all the five points of doctrine, including the uprightness of the Bible. Unlike Christian Fellowship leadership, he interprets the Bible as saying homosexuality is compatible with the teachings of God.

Both Bertolino and Student Leader Johanna Mailloux stressed that last spring's decision was not based on the fact that Palsrok is gay, but rather stemmed from Palsrok's position on homosexual behavior.

The selection of leaders is based on whether "your [the candidate's] ideas are in agreement with the tenets of our group. No one is being discriminated against based on who they are," said Matt Dickerson.

Had Palsrok been a homosexual person who believed such behavior was wrong and was avoiding a gay lifestyle, he probably would have been a successful candidate for leadership, agreed Bertolino, Mailloux and Struthers.

The Fellowship opens its general membership to any person on campus, including those practicing or supporting homosexuality.

Palsrok said that being gay is part of his identity. "You can't make a distinction between being gay and a belief," he said. He equated being gay with being African American, and "if they didn't let someone be a leader based on his race, the campus would be up in arms."

Palsrok said that he can't envision changing his identity without compromising himself and the plan God gave him for his life. "This isn't something I've chosen," he said. "I shouldn't be ashamed of my ability to love another human being- that's what life is all about and what the Bible says."

One of the central issues of this debate between the College, Palsrok and Christian Fellowship has been the Fellowship's affiliation with the national Christian organization InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. There is some question as to how strong a presence the national organization has on campus. Bertolino said that InterVarsity is not governing the Fellowship's beliefs. Rather, "we've chosen to affiliate ourselves because of our own beliefs." Bertolino added that he's confident the leadership would have made the same decision about Palsrok if they had not been affiliated with InterVarsity.

Palsrok said that the InterVarsity affiliation is "great as long as its guidelines don't oppose college policy."

Religious Discourse on Campus

Dickerson stressed the importance of having organizations on campus that feel passionate about their beliefs. "Christian Fellowship believes that there's an objective truth, that there's truth and it's not just a nice idea," he said. He added that it may be good to have more religious groups on campus to "provide students with more choice" and "encourage discourse."

Palsrok and Pasko said that during the formation this fall of a less fundamental Christian group, CHAOS, the Fellowship was not supportive of the formation of an alternative Christian group. Pasko said that she got "a lot of phone calls questioning her Biblical standards."

There is one thing on which both sides agree. Both believe that religious life on campus needs to be protected and discussed. Both sides said they hope the publicity of this issue will cause students to consider spiritual issues and develop more respect for the strength of religious beliefs. Both Palsrok and the Christian Fellowship Leaders said they were committed to keeping Christianity alive on campus as well as continuing to discuss the issue at hand.

There will be a community prayer vigil Thursday, March 16, at 8:00 p.m. in Mead Chapel.

Cook Commons and the Diversity Action Coalition plan a forum to discuss religious freedom and civil rights on campus for Thursday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. The location of the forum will be announced after spring vacation.

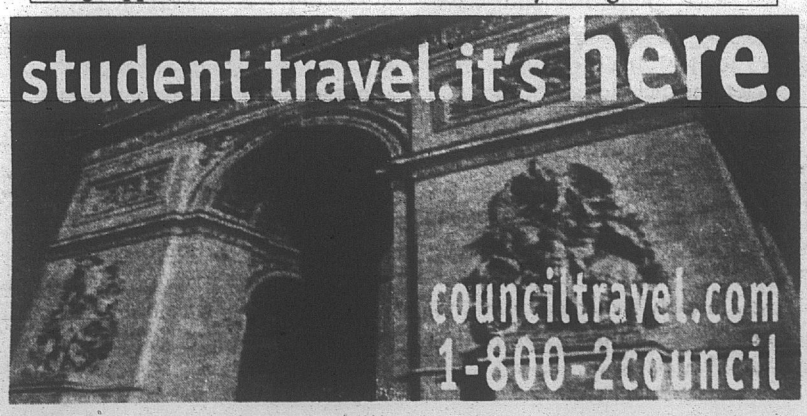
College joins the WRC on a provisional basis

(continued from page 1)
nization that reports on labor conditions of clothing factories around the world. The organization reports its findings back to its members and enables them to make decisions based on the information.

In November, McCardell signed the Middlebury College Manufacturer's Code of Conduct, committing to an alignment of the College with a monitoring organization. MASC and the Code of Conduct Committee agree that the WRC is the only acceptable choice for Middlebury because it is independent of major companies and is the only organization that plans to focus on college apparel.

In his letter to the WRC, McCardell agreed with MASC's sentiments and said that many of the provisions in the college's code of conduct, "are consistent with, if not identical to, those included in the WRC's model code of conduct."

He cited an example that the Middlebury code requires that "within two weeks of shipment of Middlebury College emblematic merchandise, the manufacturer shall be required to provide the College the names and addresses of all the company's contractors and manufacturing plants that are involved in the manufacturing process of items which bear, or will bear, the name and or images of Middlebury College."



Tricia Rose explores the world of hip-hop and rap

By Katherine Decker
Staff Writer

Once you hear that familiar bass beat, you can't help but yell, "Ho-tel, mo-tel, Holiday Inn!" "Rapper's Delight" is what started it all.

In September of 1979, while most of students were were more enthusiastic about potty training than jamming it out with Wonder Mike, Big Bad Hank and the Master Gee, the Sugar Hill Gang revolutionized rap music with their first single, "Rapper's Delight," the first hip-hop song to go Top 40. Its wide release instantly made hip-hop music the internationally acclaimed genre it is today.

Rose explained her theory that the white consumers are fascinated with the idea of the ghetto, a dangerous and yet exciting life of crime, sex and violence...

On March 9, Tricia Rose, author of "Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America," visited Middlebury and addressed this sudden change in the music industry, focusing on the evolution of hip-hop and its powerful impact on American society.

Rose is currently an Assistant Professor of History and African Studies at NYU, and her 1995 book won the American Book Award. She has acknowledged rap as a genre of music created during a time when music critics were skeptical of its value.

Early hip-hop music, beginning with "Rapper's Delight" and others throughout the early '80s, were primarily about the party scene. It made you "throw your hands high in the air, and party hardy like you just don't care."

However, beginning in the mid '80's with artists such as Public Enemy, X-Clan, and Gangster, hip-hop music began to take on more serious subject matter, expressing the political struggles facing minorities.

Presently, with the development of West-coast gangster rap, popular narratives focus on political struggles, as well as the ignoble subjects of killing, drug-dealing and pimping. Such subjects only strengthen stereotypes about the black community.

For over a hundred years African American culture has infused itself into mainstream pop culture. Even Elvis' dance moves had African American origins. Yet the emergence of hip-hop has made African American culture a truly central form of American pop culture.

In "Rapper's Delight," Wonder Mike yells hello "to the black, to the white, the red and the brown, the purple and yellow" expressing that his rap and hip-hop music are for everyone to appreciate, regardless of their nationality. After all, if only African Americans enjoyed hip-hop, it could never have become as economically successful as it is today.

The economic success of hip-hop music can be credited mainly to Caucasians, who make up the majority of the American population.

To maintain its profits, hip-hop music must evolve to meet the demands and satisfaction of the consumers. Yet, it seems that now a rapper's delight is no longer the content of the music, but the amount of money he can make.

So, why does most modern hip-hop music that exploits profanity and reprehensible subject matter sell? Tricia Rose explained her theory that the white consumers are fascinated with the idea of the ghetto, a dangerous and yet exciting life of crime, sex and violence that many can only imagine.

In reality, the popular rap music of today might be somewhat self-defeating in that it can generate harmful stereotypes associating the rap narratives with black communities and people.

Yet, despite the problems, the beat goes on. Hip-hop music has become so popular throughout the world, and with the expansion of the global market, improved technology, and white fascination with black music, it can now be widely enjoyed. Constantly evolving to meet consumer demand and having already made such a deep impact on American popular culture, hip-hop music is sure to go on and on, on and on, way past the break of dawn.

A panther wonderland

Peter Huoppi

Having traveled through a snow storm Saturday night, *hundreds of students, faculty, staff and local residents gave boisterous support to the men's hockey team during their playoff loss to Plattsburgh.*

List-serves expand college community

By Raegan Randolph
Associate Editor

E-mail has made the world a smaller place. If you have a computer and a phone line these days, you can communicate overseas or across campus—depending on the breadth of your world—cheaply and almost instantaneously. At Middlebury, the administration and several special interest groups are helping e-mail reach its full potential by creating list-serves.

But what is a list-serve, you ask. Good question.

According to Mark Pyfrom, senior systems programmer analyst at the College, a list-serve is a "mailing engine of sorts" that takes e-mail messages in and sends them out to everyone on a list. For example, all courses offered at Middlebury this semester now have their own list-serves, so that if you are enrolled in AL308 (Section A), you can theoretically e-mail everyone in the class, professor included, by typing one address: AL308a@middlebury.edu.

This fall, Information Technology Services (ITS) wrote a list-automation tool to help them quickly build lists and update the drop/add students in a given class. Because of this new automated script, professors have increased their use of the course-based list-serve, said Pyfrom.

If you think about it, you are probably already a member of several list-serves. The College has list-serves based on many different variables; there are lists for students divided by class, by major, by commons and more.

However, just because you are a member of a list, doesn't mean you have automatic access to e-mail its members using the list name. ITS restricts who can use the list. Imagine how flooded your inbox would be if everyone was allowed to e-mail to "all students@middlebury.edu" whenever they had an announcement to make. One can customize other the restrictions on a list-serve as well.

"There are a few things you can do with a list-serve such as regulate what someone sends," said Pyfrom. "For example, we don't let anyone post over 40k." Other restrictions include censoring a certain word from appearing in e-mails sent to a list-serve.

Increasingly, members of the college community are requesting list-serves to be created to accommodate social or academic interests. In early December, Environmental Coordinator Amy Seif started a list-serve called Enviroaffairs. "The purpose of Environmental Affairs is to enlarge the community of people at Middlebury College who want to do something about environmental issues on campus," said Seif. The list-serve, explained Seif, brings all people interested in the environment together through e-mail discussion and allows the College's Environmental Council to receive input from outside sources. Seif has used ideas introduced by the list-serve in meetings and discussions on topics such as transportation, global warming and energy conservation.

Seif encourages anyone in the college community to join, even if they are interested in only one particular issue. "They can participate when it pertains to them," she said.

Seif also noted that since Enviroaffairs is a moderated list-serve, members are not overwhelmed with the volume of e-mail they receive. "The question that everyone has when they join list-serves is if they will get inundated with e-mail. We have a moderator to make it more efficient, to moderate e-mail messages and to stagger when they go out," explained Seif. "It's done in a way that isn't too intrusive." Enviroaffairs began with 100 subscribers in December and is moderated by Janet Wiseman, environmental studies academic program coordinator.

Middlequeery is the name of another college list-serve set up by a special interest group on campus. Students created this list-serve in 1997 as a confidential means for sharing information about gay/lesbian/transgender issues and events. "Before, the group had just a mailing list and there were potential problems with people's names being seen whereas a list-serve is confidential," said Kevin Moss, professor of Russian.

A subscriber to Middlequeery and co-convenor for Middlebury

(see List-serves, page 9)

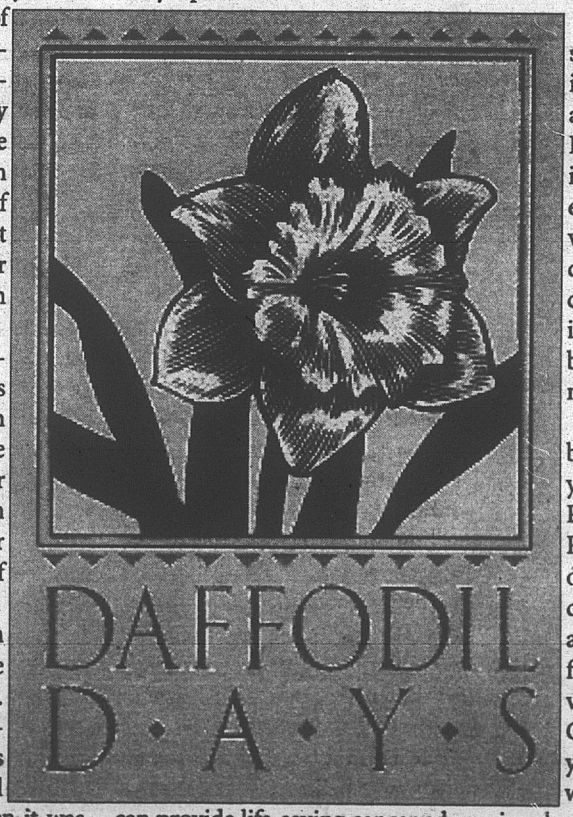
Daffodil sales aid cancer reasearch

By Jessica Kassis
Features Editor

The American Cancer Society has estimated that 552,200 Americans will die of cancer this year. As the second leading cause of death in this country, cancer affects one of four people and three out of every four families. The disease has already taken 5 million lives since the beginning of 1990, and studies predict that 1,220,100 new cancer cases will be diagnosed in 2000.

These horrifying statistics suggest that many of us will come face to face with this terrible disease at some point in our lives, whether directly or indirectly. Even more frustrating is our helplessness in the face of this debilitating illness.

There is one way in which we can all contribute to the fight against cancer. The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days has been an instrumental fundraiser since 1970 when it was adopted from the Canadian Cancer Society.



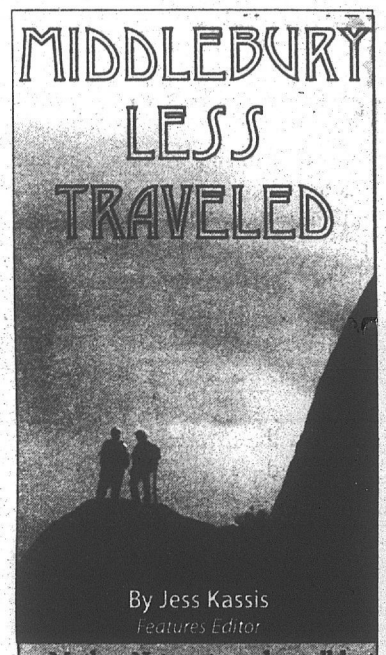
The fundraiser has four main goals. First, Daffodil Days aims at raising money for cancer research. Second, some money raised is allocated towards American Cancer Society speakers and literature that can provide life-saving cancer education.

Third, Daffodil Days hopes to increase public awareness of the invaluable work done by the American Cancer Society. Finally, Daffodil Days was created to ignite the hope, for patients and the community, that a cure for cancer will be found.

As the first flower of spring, the daffodil symbolizes hope for cancer patients and their families. Daffodil Days, an event held annually in the spring, gives businesses, schools, clubs and individuals the opportunity to donate money to the American Cancer Society by buying daffodils for a friend or by donating them anonymously to a cancer patient.

Daffodil Days was first brought to Middlebury five years ago by writing tutor Patty Pack. Brett Millier, the Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature, became aware of these efforts and decided to make the fundraiser a community service project for Atwater Commons beginning last year. She states, "It is a wonderful cause to be involved in and one with which many people on campus have a personal connection."

(see Spring, page 9)



Mother Nature teased us all last week with a few days of gorgeous hiking weather. While the temperature has dropped again, there is no doubt that spring is on its way, and with it, the opportunity to hike some beautiful mountains. The trail descriptions below have been selected from "Exploring the Landscape: An Educational Outdoor Guide to the Middlebury Area." (Boyd, Esposito, Gault, Huoppi, Kautz, Leach, and Wall)

MOUNT ABRAHAM

length: 5.2 miles, 4,006'

Mount Abraham is one of just five summits in Vermont which rises above 4,000 ft and one of just four that extend above tree-line . Pause at the top to take in the 360-degree view. South lies the Green Mountain chain to Killington, the Champlain Valley and the Adirondacks to the West. On a clear day the White Mountains can be seen to the east, and to the north the high ridge of Mount Abe and its adjacent mountains form the predominant landscape. Please keep in mind that the fragile alpine vegetation above tree-line suffers under boots, so remember to stay on the marked trail or on rock outcroppings. From Lincoln Gap the hike to the summit is steep, 5.2 mile round-trip along the Long Trail. The LT passes the Battell Trail 1.7 miles into the hike, which veers west for two miles to a road; and the Battell shelter, 0.1 miles to the east. From Abraham's summit, you can continue north along the ridge to 3,975 foot Lincoln Peak where an observation deck offers views in every direction (making this hike 6.8 miles round-trip). Directions: Drive north on Rt. 7 out of Middlebury. After 8 miles, turn right onto Route 17. Continue east on Rt. 17 past the junction with Route 116 and through the town of Bristol. After 6.8 miles you will cross a bridge and then turn right onto Lincoln Road Lincoln Gap, 4.7 miles east of Lincoln and 4.7 miles west of Route 100 in Warren. There is parking two-tenths of a mile west of Lincoln Gap, as well as along the road in the vicinity of the trail-crossing.

(I would like to ask all who choose to follow the Chipman Hill mountain-biking trails described in last week's column to observe speed limits when coming back to campus on Springside Drive. The children of many families have almost been hit by speeding riders in the past. The families on Springside drive would greatly appreciate cautious riding and adherence to the speed limits. Thanks)

Posse Plus retreat breaks down barriers of diversity

By Jess Kassis
Features Editor

Ongoing efforts to raise diversity awareness have been instrumental in attempting to bridge the gap between different races, ethnic groups and lifestyles here on campus. Yet, few have employed an approach as integrative as that taken by Posse Plus.

Started in 1989 by Deborah Biel, The Posse Plus Foundation found its roots in New York City. Biel's efforts were inspired by her desire to transcend the boundaries of inner city life and give minority students the educational opportunities they deserved.

Recognizing stereotypes is the first step in dispelling them. This weekend was an excellent opportunity for Middlebury students to step out of their comfort zone and stimulate constructive dialog.
—Sara Yun '03

Yet scholarships and opportunities proved incapable of providing minority students with a truly successful and enjoyable college experience. Money alone was unable to overcome the culture shock that many Posse scholars were faced with upon arrival in their new environments.

One student particularly affected by this shock of her new college environment stated, "If I had had my posse with me, I wouldn't have dropped out."

As a result, the focus of the program shifted and it was named "Posse Plus." Biel decided to recruit a diverse group of student leaders and unite them as a team through leadership workshops that provided training in dialog stimulation and the formation of relationships between diverse individuals.

In addition, Biel realized that true diversity awareness could not be raised by minorities alone, and her scope was broadened to include Caucasian students. The Posse Foundation has since expanded to the national level, with portions of incoming funding directed toward future offices in San Francisco and Chicago.

As it stands, Posse Plus scholars are required to endure a rigorous application process, which includes intensive group and individual interviews, before acceptance can be granted in mid-December.

Once accepted, scholars are given an opportunity to state their preference from a list of schools with which the program is affiliated. This past year, Posse Plus sent student teams to Brandeis University, Vanderbilt University, De Paul University, and Middlebury. Wheaton College will be added to this list for next year's applicants.

Posse scholars are placed in a group of ten other students who have chosen the same college. This group truly becomes a team prior to their arrival on campus.

This year's Posse is Middlebury's first. President McCardell and Mike Schoenfeld, dean of enrollment planning, were both instrumental in forming an affiliation with the Posse Plus Foundation. Middlebury Posse #1 consists of ten first-years who meet weekly to plan events, discuss "hot" issues on campus, and share their college experiences. Posse scholar Sara Yun '03 states, "If I could describe the posse in one word, it would be "diversity," in its fullest sense." Posse scholar Angela Boulart '03 says, "Getting involved with Middlebury through the Posse Foundation was more fulfilling than it would have been had I come on my own."

The Posse's on-campus support system is headed by their mentor, Janine Clookey, director of Academic Support.

This past weekend marked a special occasion for Middlebury Posse #1. The posse's annual retreat, with the theme "Middlebury in the Mirror: Perceptions and Stereotypes," took place at the Brandon Inn in Brandon, Vermont.

Fifty people participated in the retreat, including the ten Posse scholars, Clookey, Biel, faculty, staff, and students invited by the posse members as guests.

The weekend retreat aimed at recognizing and dispelling stereotypes in an equalized and safe environment. Guest participant Angela Schluchter '03 says, "We are all very polite on campus and it is therefore really hard to talk about real issues. The retreat was a chance to state your opinions without trying to be too polite."

The events began with a social Rorschach, a slide show projecting a diverse group of social figures from the past and present. This exercise was focused upon stimulating the creation of social images in the minds of participants.

Other workshops included an identity exercise in which each participant wrote three words they felt accurately reflected their own view of their identity.

The identity cards were exchanged and participants were asked to answer certain questions from the perspective of that person whose card they held.

Guest participant Susan Simpson '03 truly enjoyed this exercise. She state, "I never really thought about diversity issues on campus before this retreat. I found myself at the point of tears a few times because I was able to see things from another person's perspective and at the same time learn things about myself I had never realized."

A "No-Talent Talent Show" provided some comic relief, featuring singing and skits by students, faculty, and staff. Finally, the retreat was brought to a close with a final workshop. Small groups were formed, each representing a different social group.

We are all very polite on campus and it is therefore really hard to talk about real issues. The retreat was a chance to state your opinions without trying to be too polite.
—Angela Schluchter '03

Boulart comments, "What was most inspiring to me was the deep conversation I had with people I wouldn't usually talk to."

Groups included Christians, male homosexuals, civil rights activists and females among others. Each then proceeded to educate the entire group as to the stereotypes affiliated with their identity as well as the need to discredit these myths. Posse scholar Adam Cohen enjoyed such activities and said, "They really help people feel more comfortable on campus."

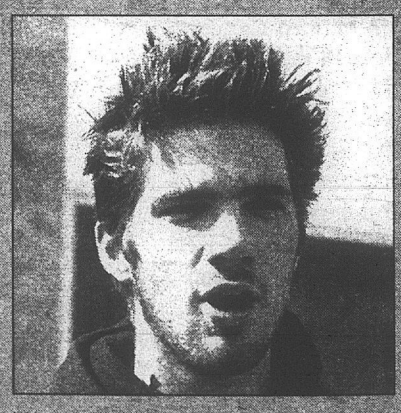
Yun states, "Recognizing stereotypes is the first step in dispelling them. This weekend was an excellent opportunity for Middlebury students to step out of their comfort zone and stimulate constructive dialog." Middlebury will maintain its affiliation with the Posse Plus Foundation and Middlebury Posse #2 will arrive on campus next fall. This program has had positive repercussions for everyone involved. While this retreat was successful, Posse scholars hope to have as many as 100 participants next year and encourage anyone who is interested to attend. As Yun states, "Posse forges bonds among people who would have never taken the initiative to get to know each other otherwise"

CAMPUS VOICES

What is the weirdest thing you love?

Compiled by Bob Wainwright — Photos by Andrew Corrigan

"Myself"
—Katherine Decker '03



"Flattering voices inside discombobulated shells of humanity"
—Trevor Snapp '02.5

"Gasoline sniffing"
—Burch Fisher '03

"Crunchy burntness on mac and cheese"
—Kirk German '00.5

List-serves promote college discussion

(continued from page 7)

Open Queer Alliance (moqa), Kristen Gray '02 also praised the list-serve's confidentiality, but warned, "Being on the list is confidential but posting is not, so once you post something the people on the list will know who it is from."

Middlequeery most often serves as a way to announce gay/lesbian/transgender events going on in the area, but the list-serve also makes organizing and planning the group's Middlebury events easier. Occasionally the list-serve witnesses heated discussion as well. "When something big hits either nationally or on-campus we have a lot of debate," said Moss.

One of the largest special interest list-serves uniting the Middlebury community is Middtalk, which serves primarily as a forum for alumni discussion. Rachel Morton, editor of Middlebury Magazine, founded the list-serve in 1994 when she created the magazine's Web site. "I thought [Middtalk] would add a service to the alumni and that they would like to talk to each other," said Morton.

Middtalk promotes discussion on a number of topics from college-related issues to political views to its members' literary work. "The key to it is that it is a community builder," said Phil Benoit, director of Public Affairs. "People talk with those who are not in their class or anywhere near their class."

Morton also notes that a growing number of students are participating in Middtalk in addition to alumni. She and Benoit said only a small number of alumni participate actively, but there are many "lurkers" who chime into the discussion once in a while.

"There are people [on Middtalk] all over the world, ranging in age from 18 to 80, which makes it fun," said Morton.

New list-serves seem to be popping up all the time. Visiting Instructor of Anthropology David Eaton and some of his students are currently building a list-serve for members of the community interested in African Studies.

The ultimate goal of the list-serve is to gauge public interest in forming an African Studies program at the College, although the immediate purpose of the list-serve is to create a single place where students, faculty and staff can get information about events related to Africa. Anyone interested in joining this site should contact Carmen Tedesco '01.

If you have an idea for a college list-serve with an academic purpose, ITS can help you build one. Pyfrom explained, "If your list-serve has any kind of academic or administrative value then we will probably [set it up]."

Currently, only Pyfrom and a few other members of ITS have the power to establish a list-serve at the College. "Our process for deciding is somewhat arbitrary," admits Pyfrom, "No one has ever written up a constitution as to what constitutes a valid list-serve or not."

What could be more convenient than a list-serve? You can get involved and voice your opinion, all without ever leaving your room. Ah, the beauty of technology.

To subscribe to Enviroaffairs, Middlequeery or Middtalk, send an e-mail to majordomo@middlebury.edu, leave the subject line blank and type in all lowercase letters the name of the list-serve. For example:

subscribe middtalk

Spring flowers symbolize hope for cancer patients

(continued from page 7)

Samantha D'Aprile '02 joined Millier in planning and implementing the fundraiser, dealing with the student population while Millier appealed to the faculty and staff. In addition to Millier and D'Aprile, about 15 faculty and student volunteers aid in labeling and delivering daffodils.

The campus fundraising efforts offer two options for donations. First, students are able to purchase ten daffodils for five dollars to keep for themselves or to give to a friend.

A $15 donation will buy a "Gift of Hope," a bouquet of daffodils donated anonymously by the American Cancer Society to a cancer victim in the hospital. D'Aprile states, "It's a really great feeling to see a patient smile when you open the door with a bouquet of daffodils."

All-campus e-mails and voice mails in combination with week-long fundraising at Proctor have made Daffodil Days highly successful on campus. This year's Daffodil Days ended on March 6, when orders were submitted to the American Cancer Society. Daffodils will be delivered to friends and patients on March 27.

Faculty, student, and staff donations in the form of daffodil sales amounted to $2840, 95 percent of which is used to achieve the goals of the project mentioned above. The remaining 5 percent is allocated for the purchase of the daffodils.

D'Aprile sees a continuing future for Daffodil Days here at Middlebury and as a part of the Atwater Commons community service project. She states, "Atwater Commons recognizes community service as a truly important part of college life."

For more information about how to get involved in the fight against cancer, people may visit the American Cancer Society Web page at www.cancer.org/.

A Little Taste of Reality

By Ruth Howell and Lisa Engelstein
Staff Writers

Chew on This...

Current World Population: 6,050,170,000. It took just 12 years for the world population to leap from 5 billion to 6 billion. In the 19th century global population grew by only 600 million, but in the 20th century it grew by 4.4 billion.

There are twice as many people today as there were in 1960. Even with a continued decline in fertility rates, the United Nations projects a population of 8.9 billion in 2050.

With current trends, world population isn't expected to stabilize until after 2080. The world population reached:

1 billion in 1804,
2 billion in 1927 (123 years later)
3 billion in 1960 (33 years)
4 billion in 1974 (13 years)
5 billion in 1987 (12 years)
6 billion in 1999 (12 years)
7 billion in 2013 (14 years - projected))
8 billion in 2028 (15 years)
10.7 (high) or 8.9 (middle) or 7.3 (low) billion projected for 2050

World population growth is equivalent to around three babies every second.

New inhabitants add the equivalent of a city the size of San Francisco to the world population every three days.

Global fertility has fallen from 5 births per woman in the 1950s to 2.7 births per woman. The net increase is on the decrease, and has been since 1989, when annual growth topped out at more than 86 million.

If fertility remained at current levels, the population would reach the absurd figure of 296 billion in just 150 years. Even if it dropped to 2.5 children per woman and then stopped falling, the population would still reach 28 billion.

Birth rates are falling worldwide but death rates are declining even faster.

The average life expectancy is 61, up from 40 in just 50 years. The numbers of people 65 and older make up 10-15 percent of the world population today and is expected to increase to 20-30 percent by 2050.

Our Digestion:

Although Americans are not as likely to directly experience the effects of overpopulation, we significantly contribute to the problem. In the past, diseases and genetic defects were a natural means of maintaining a constant and sustainable population. In modern society, AIDS and cancer are two examples of population regulators which we are attempting to eliminate.

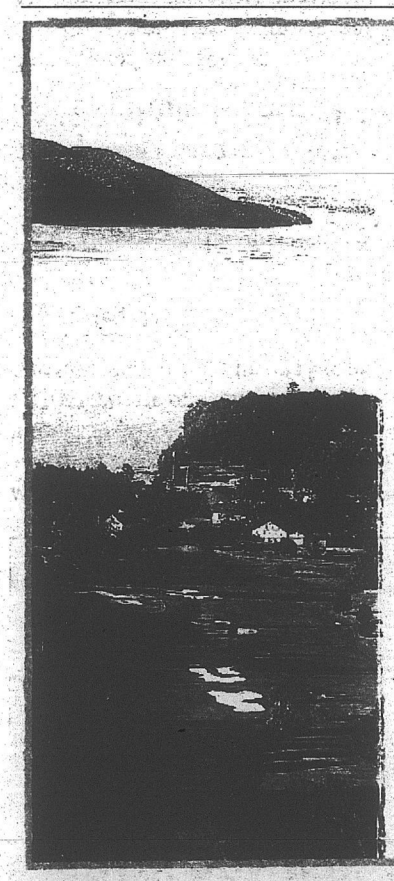
Diseases which were once fatal are now easily prevented by immunizations or can be cured by simple treatments such as penicillin. Due to these medical advances, the death rate has declined considerably because individuals who normally would have died are now surviving.

While modern medicine is increasing both the quality and length of life, there is little corresponding control of the birth rate.

A few countries have attempted to alleviate overpopulation and its effects. China, for example, has instituted a law limiting the number of children per family. Should government have the right to implement laws regulating family size or should government place the responsibility in the hands of the individuals by providing free and accessible birth control and education?

The modern world is attempting to circumvent all natural and human produced population controls: old age, disease, genetic defects, famine, natural disasters, and war.

Through all these natural controls, nature is trying to tell us that the world is not able to sustain 6 billion human inhabitants. Perhaps instead of exploiting the world to fit human needs, we should let nature run its own course.



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Editorial

Rights vs. Freedoms

Christian Fellowship undoubtedly discriminated against Ryan Palsrok when they denied him a place in their leadership because he is gay. College policy clearly states that no member of the community may be excluded from anything at the College on the basis of sexual orientation. In that same sentence, however, the Handbook states that the College will provide freedom of religion, thus creating what seems to be an irreconcilable conflict between religious freedom and non-discrimination. Christian Fellowship broke College policy by discriminating against Ryan, but similarly the College would violate its own policies by punishing a religious group because of their beliefs.

It is clear through the Handbook language that religious beliefs are afforded special rights that are different than most other beliefs. Does that difference mean that they can tell a person that he or she cannot be a leader simply because of the way he or she was born? The Constitution Committee would probably never approve a student organization that has the explicit ability to discriminate against people who are gay. However, they approved the constitution of Christian Fellowship with the five points that the leaders say enable the organization to discriminate.

The problem is not the five points themselves, but how they are interpreted. Christian Fellowship maintains that Ryan could not adhere to these points. Ryan has said that he firmly believes in each of the points and should have been considered by the entire organization for a leadership position. The fact that he was not even put on the ballot, thus denying the whole organization an opportunity to decide on his commitment to the five points, clashes with the College's emphasis on open discourse. Ryan should have had the chance to defend his beliefs.

The College cannot and should not interfere with a person or group's religious beliefs, and that indeed gives the groups a special privilege, but does that afford the groups the right to discriminate? The College cannot tell any individual or group that their religious beliefs are wrong, even if their beliefs lead to discrimination. However, the Student Activities Fee is distributed to organizations with the intent that any person may hold a position in the membership or leadership of that organization. If Christian Fellowship cannot permit this because of their religious views, they should not receive student funding.

The problem with withholding funds from a group is that it is often what allows religious groups to pursue their beliefs. If Christian Fellowship lost all of its funding, it is likely that through the national InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, supporters in town and an active alumni base, the group could continue to fund all of its activities. The concern is for other organizations that may lack these resources, and whether they could survive in the absence of College funding. It is undeniable that every religious organization will have some costs, and, in the absence of other resources, a lack of funding will equal a lack of religious freedom.

If groups need money to pursue their religious freedom, and Student Activities funding is not supposed to go to groups which discriminate, then the College must separate religious groups from Student Activities. The College should establish a fund which does not use any student funding and which would be distributed by the Chaplain's office to all religious groups. The religious organizations would cease to be governed by Student Activities and would instead be free to practice their own beliefs.

This solution is not a punishment for other groups because of Christian Fellowship's actions. Instead, it is a way to provide all religious organization complete freedom. While the Campus believes that no one should be discriminated against, the fact remains that religious beliefs should be accorded the proper freedoms. The receipt of money from the student body implies openness and inclusivity. Thus, as long as any group receives funding from the Student Activities Fee, that group cannot discriminate. Through separate funding and independence from Student Activities, all religious groups would be free to pursue their beliefs as they see fit, independent of whether society views them as right or wrong.

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Xenia extends its gratitude for recognition

When Xenia received word during the "town meeting" last Thursday that now it did indeed have a house, it suddenly occurred to us

Stephen Joyce '01

that we owed sincere thank-you's to a myriad of people. We had finally "arrived," as it were. But it also occurred to me personally to use this moment to do a little more than thank Middlebury. I hope that this message does not cloy or patronize. That was not the intention of its author.

Xenia would like to take a moment to thank all those who played a role in our acquisition of a residential house and in the growth of our organization from the start. At Middlebury, when it comes to the balance between affirmation and critique, with great frequency the majority of what we hear are complaints, coming from and aimed at a diverse group of organizations and people on campus. While it goes without question that there are a host of problems all of us would like to see solved here, it is equally true that there are many positive things taking place on campus which are only celebrated by the select few directly affected. We need complaints to get the changes made, but we also need to applaud and affirm something positive once it has happened.

Maybe some of you think we need to see more complaining. I just do not know. I do know that I want to take a few seconds out of your day to show you that, yes indeed, positive things are happening on your campus to people who are excited about those changes. My hope here is that the next time either an organization on campus or the administration does something we deem positive that we say "thank you" sincerely before we say "about time" and then move on. Maybe we are just thanking people for "doing the right thing," but wouldn't we all like to be treated like that.

So we thank everybody. The list could of course go on and on, and we apologize for leaving any friends out. Xenia sends a sincere thanks to its founding members, the Administration, the SGA, the Residential Life Staff, the Residential Commons Staff, the IHC both past and present, our faculty advisors Katherine Sonderegger and Yonna McShane, and anyone else among the faculty, staff, or students who has encouraged us or aided us in any capacity. Thank you. Thank you, Middlebury College.

It has been a long, arduous, and frustrating process. But it has also been rewarding, and it is not over. We hope that every other organization on campus pursuing a goal can share its sense of accomplishment and gratefulness with Middlebury once it has achieved that goal. Otherwise we may spend four whole years here never fully appreciating just how good we really have it.

Pasko examines Fellowship's decision

It was a beautiful sunny day and Ryan and I were sitting out behind Hamlin enjoying the beauty of the bright blue September sky. I was telling Ryan about an autobiography I had

Jess Pasko '01

read, which had been written by my dean, David Edleson. In it David told the story of the first time he was discriminated against, as a Jewish boy in the South; he was 14-years old at the time. When I finished the story, a sad, hurt shadow fell over Ryan's face and clouded his eyes and he looked off to the distant mountains trying to hide the hurt. After some time he muttered "Gee, I guess I am lucky then, because the first time I was discriminated against wasn't until last year." I too fell silent; he did not need to explain anymore; I knew exactly what he was talking about. It was why I had not yet returned to Christian Fellowship, an organization, which I had been active in the year before. I could not reconcile, the choice they had made in not letting a good, moral, intelligent, thoughtful, faithful follower of God be on their leadership. I came to the realization that day that just not being a part of C.F. would not and had not solved anything. In order to get some reconciliation and closure on this issue we would have to take a more proactive role.

In late September when Ryan and I first approached the chaplain, Laurie Jordan, I don't think we had any conception of how complex this issue was, nor how divisive it would be. If I had known all of the pain that I would cause my friends and fellow Christians I may not have done anything. If I could have foreseen all the tears we would shed and all the late nights we would spend grappling with this issue, I may not have pursued this. If I had known at the time that this issue would potentially break up my Christian a cappella group, my source of support and sense of family on this campus, I would not have done this. And yet, in spite of this all, I know that Ryan and I would do it all again if it meant that in the future no student would ever again be kept off leadership of any student organization based on their sexual orientation.

I am Christian, and although I am a heterosexual, I know with every fiber of my being that homosexuality is neither sinful

(see Christian, page 12)

Corrections

In his March 8 Opinions article Josh Raufman said that he spoke for the Jewish Community in supporting the WRC. He has since retracted that statement.

Palsrok questions denial of Christian Fellowship leader position

I am a follower of Christ. I am gay. I am alive. I do not take any of these declarations lightly. Together, they tell a story. They tell a story of a young man who

Ryan Palsrok '01

owes his life, both eternal and mortal, to his Savior. They outline a painful struggle of submission to an unexpected plan, to a path where true joy awaits. They profess a miracle: how, by Grace alone, I have come to discover my ability to love someone of the same sex, and that has brought me only closer to Heaven. So now I write it. I love God as much as I know how. Being gay has helped me do that.

I thank God that I am both alive and able to say this today. Many gay men and women have not been so lucky. Countless numbers of young gay people have taken their own lives, unable to face the struggles ahead. Others have married a person of the opposite sex, fostered children and lived compartmentalized lives of loneliness and frustration. Some have resorted to drugs and alcohol, or casual sex, seeking to escape their reality. Ultimately, being gay is widely considered a problem in our society. As a consequence, many gay people never experience a life of joy or love.

Since Grace has brought me where I am today, I have an obligation to God and to my gay brothers and sisters to stand up against untruth about homosexuality. The consequences of silence are too great. As long as the possibility exists that just one gay person might even consider taking his or her life because of an ability to love and be loved, I have no choice but to gently confront any person or group preaching untruth about that ability to love. On this campus, that group is the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (C.F.).

It pains me to write that. I have been a part of C.F. since coming to Middlebury. It makes me cry knowing that this group founded on principles of love would rather teach non-acceptance of my ability to romantically love someone, than celebrate this truly amazing gift with me. It makes me very sad that C.F., using the same Gospel to which I cling, advances an un-Biblical position founded on hurtful tradition. And it frustrates me that C.F. considers this stance so important that it cannot agree to disagree about it with other Christians.

My fellow students, I ask you then to stand with me. First, challenge C.F. for their prejudice against homosexuals. Call them to recognize that being gay lies at the core of someone's identity. Teach them that a gay person has no real choice but to accept that fact. Secondly, I ask you to confront the administration with me. We cannot allow our tuition dollars to subsidize an organization whose constitution opposes civil rights. Since the fall, the administration has known that the C.F. constitution does this, yet they continue to remain largely inactive. C.F.'s stance violates the college's non-discrimination policy. Let the administration know that if C.F. insists on keeping this destructive, non-compliant belief, they forfeit their right to be sponsored by the college.

To Christian Fellowship, I also want to write a few things. First, your stance of non-acceptance will not prevent one gay person from being gay. You simply cannot change a person's creational given. You can only prevent that person from being honest about that given, that person's ability to love. That dishonesty cultivates ignorance. It creates fear and self-loathing. It sows hate where love can and should be sown. Not only, though, will you fail in changing anyone's emotional orientation, you may also cause a person to reject the message of the Gospel entirely, that is grace. You profess that "Love is the fulfillment of the law," (Romans 13:10) yet you expect gays to refrain from love. This contradiction undermines your teachings. It's hypocrisy pushes many, gay and straight, away from Christianity.

I am not alone in believing that the Bible's stance on same-sex romantic love has been skewed by hurtful tradition. Many thoughtful Christians, Christians who hold to the fundamental truth of Scripture, conclude that the Bible never condemns homosexuality, merely certain same-sex sexual activity in the context of other sins. Even some denominations have begun to see the prohibition differently, like the Episcopal denomination. In this sense, your stance, C.F., is "denominational." Many scholars differ from your stance—devoted Church leaders trying to follow God's will. Use this as a litmus test for whether or not a person's viewpoint on homosexuality should be so vital as to prevent a person from holding a leadership position. I I urge you then, my

(see Palsrok, page 12)

C.F. member reacts to discrimination charges

As a member of Christian Fellowship for the last four years, and a former member of its leadership, I would like to offer an explanation of why Christian

Daniel Perett '00

Fellowship has taken the position that it has on Ryan Palsrok's nomination for leadership last year. Even if people disagree with us, I think it's a good idea for people to hear different points of view, and to be able to discuss them.

I should begin by saying that I greatly admire the courage that Ryan has shown in publicly discussing his sexual orientation. I also sympathize with him for the pain he must have undergone. His courage and strength, as well as his genuineness and friendliness are admirable, and I am sad to have to differ with him over such an issue. I hope that he will understand that my disagreement with him does not affect my respect for him as a person.

There are several misunderstandings that I would like to clear up. The first is that the reason why Ryan was not allowed to be on CF's leadership was because of his sexual orientation. This is not the case. The question is not who Ryan is, but what his opinions are. Ryan disagrees with Christian Fellowship, in that he believes that homosexual acts are permissible in Christianity. We do not believe this. We believe that we are told by God in Scripture that homosexual acts are wrong, and we believe we have to be obedient to this message and not pretend that the Bible doesn't say what it says. This isn't a central part of our message, but it is nevertheless one of things we believe and we are no more free to change the Bible than a Muslim is to change the Qur'an.

The issue also is not that we think we are somehow "better" than Ryan. We do not condemn him. For my part, I think Ryan may well lead a much more upright and admirable life than I do. Even in the case of people who engage in homosexual sex, though we believe it is wrong, it is important to put that in the context of the fact that Christians believe that we all sin. We do not think that homosexuals are somehow "lower" than the rest of us, who struggle with greed, sexual temptation, arrogance, unfairness, lack of compassion and any number of other things. The whole point of our religion is that we think that everyone needs to be forgiven and rescued by Jesus from the slavery of sin.

The fact that we think homosexual acts are sinful does not mean that we condemn people who are homosexual, just as the fact that we think unmarried heterosexual acts are sinful does not mean we condemn unmarried heterosexual people. And we utterly reject the horrible twisting of the Christian message that has been done by the "God hates fags" people, who obviously haven't read the Bible closely enough to find out that God loves each individual person enough to die on the cross for her or him.

The reason that Ryan's nomination was refused had nothing to do with who he is as a person. The reason was simply that Ryan disagrees with the Fellowship about one of our beliefs. This is not the first time this has happened. A few years ago, someone else's nomination was questioned because the person disagreed with CF's statement of faith, on an issue that had nothing to do with homosexuality. If a homosexual who believed that homosexual acts were prohibited in Christianity wanted to be on leadership, we would fully support that person's nomination. If a straight person who believed what Ryan believes had been nominated for leadership, we would have opposed it. The distinction we make is not about sexual orientation, but about belief.

In doing this, we are not doing anything more than any other organization does when it limits its leadership (not its membership) to those people that agree with its vision. College Democrats won't take a Republican on leadership, the leaders of the Islamic Society should be Muslims, and the people leading the protests against sweatshop labor should be people who oppose sweatshop labor. If I, believing that homosexual acts are wrong, went to moqa and asked to be on their leadership, they would say no to me for the same reason that CF said no to Ryan. It would not be because of my religion or sexual orientation, but simply because I disagreed with their mission.

CF has done the same thing.I am sad to see the pain Ryan has gone through and the difficulties that this divisive issue has created. We are all very happy that Ryan continues to worship with us and talk with us, and we view him as our brother in Christ, in faith and love.

Daily Jolt staff respond to recent controversy

The operators of Middlebury's DailyJolt site, www.dailyjolt.com, would like to address what has been described to us by a Middlebury

Marc Zelnick '00, Zach Tofias '00 & David Cohen '01

Campus reporter as an ongoing "controversy" over a certain posting in the DailyJolt's Forum Section. This "controversy" centers around a posting created forty-three minutes after midnight on March 9th of this month, entitled "March for Pussy." The DailyJolt does not pretend to understand the motives behind this individual's posting. Since that initial posting, there have been 18 responses; some enlightened, others not so.

The DailyJolt ardently maintains the right of freedom of expression, and it is the policy of those involved in the organization to make all concessions necessary to allow for this right to be practiced. That said, the DailyJolt does not share the views of all of its users, and has in the past removed particular postings due to their libelous and/or damaging nature. We encourage our users to be respectful of the feelings of others. We also warn our users that upon entering into our Forum they are exposing themselves to material which they may find objectionable. The DailyJolt is truly dismayed when sentiments which might offend certain persons or groups are posted, but the DailyJolt does not feel that dismay, in and of itself, is a compelling reason for removal. In addition, the DailyJolt believes that the removal of postings from our forum has the potential negative effect of stifling conversation.

We ask any and all users of the site to contact the DailyJolt if and when a questionable posting is found.

The DailyJolt staff has a history of working with individuals expressing injury incurred through our site, and have found that in some circumstances, deleting a posting is not in the best interest of the injured party. As of 10:00 PM on March 14, the DailyJolt has not received one complaint over the "March for Pussy" postings.

The DailyJolt is a free service provided to the Middlebury College community, and we invite all members of the college community to enter into the many (and mostly productive) Forum discussions at www.dailyjolt.com.

Marc Zelnick, Zach Tofias and David K. Cohen are students at Middlebury College and operate the Daily Jolt site.

McCardell proclaims WRC membership

I am writing to inform you that Middlebury College has decided to join the Worker Rights Consortium on a provisional basis, for a period of one year from the date of the April 7, 2000 WRC Founding Conference.

On November 30, 1999, Middlebury College promulgated the "Middlebury College Apparel Manufacturers Code of Conduct." Many of the provisions in this code of conduct are consistent with, if not identical to, those included in the Worker Rights Consortium's model code of conduct. In particular, the Middlebury code requires that, within two weeks of shipment of College emblematic merchandise, the manufacturer shall be required to provide the College the names and addresses of all the company's contractors and manufacturing plants that are involved in the manufacturing process of items which bear, or will bear, the name and/or images of Middlebury College.

No later than March 31, 2001, Middlebury College will evaluate our continued membership in the WRC on the basis of our assessment of the group's activities over the next year and substantive evidence of its success in improving the working conditions for those involved in the production of apparel bearing the name or logo of Middlebury governance and fiscal structure.

Furthermore, in order not to compromise our tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, Middlebury College reserves the right to disassociate itself from political or partisan activities of the WRC, including, but not limited to, legislative lobbying and the endorsement of candidates for public office.

Finally, the College explicitly does not, by joining WRC, grant blanket permission for the use of its name by the WRC or any of the WRC's "endorsing" individuals or organizations. We expect to be informed by WRC of the ways it intends to use the name of Middlebury College, and we reserve the right to grant or withhold that permission on a case-by-case basis.

Note: The President wrote this letter to Maria Roeper of the WRC. It has been edited for content.

Shapira analyzes Worker Rights Consortium form and function

Jonathan Shapira '02

I am writing because of my concern about the College potentially joining the Worker Rights Consortium. In recent days I have studied the details of the WRC and explored other options the College has if it wants to take a stand against sweatshops. It has become evident that certain student groups on campus are engaging in tactics meant to pressure the College into joining the WRC. While it will soon become clear that I have formed an opinion about the WRC, I am not interested in lobbying you. Rather, my hope is that I can begin to help provide you with enough information so that you can make an informed decision.

I would like to first make clear that I am opposed to sweatshops and I think the College should do whatever is in its power to stop them. I believe that the vast majority of the Middlebury community is in agreement on this. Joining the Worker Rights Consortium, however, is neither the only nor the best option the College has to ensure that its clothing is not produced in sweatshops.

The WRC is a new and untested organization. It is neither independent nor objective and appears to be controlled by the American labor movement. For example, the WRC Governing Board, which will be responsible for policy decisions, will consist of six people from its Advisory Board, three people from United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS), and three people from school administrations. The Advisory Board is made up of such union officials as Ron Blackwell, the Director of the Corporate Affairs Department of the AFL-CIO, and Steve Weingarten from the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees (UNITE!) , America's leading textile union. All of this information is available on the WRC web site.

These close ties to the labor movement are important (and disturbing) because these unions are doing everything they can to prevent jobs from going to other countries. The unions lose power when jobs move abroad. Now I know many people talk about the need to buy American made products, but there are literally billions of people in Third World countries desperate to escape poverty. I think we should support economic development in these countries - provided, of course, that it does not result in sweatshop labor. There is a bill currently before Congress entitled "The African Growth and Opportunity Act."

There are currently 290 million Africans who make less than a dollar a day and this bill will break down trade barriers so as to encourage companies to open factories in Africa and spur economic development. The bill also has provisions that will ensure that only democratic countries which protect worker rights gain free trade benefits. Despite this, and the fact that the bill is supported by both Republicans and Democrats, the Congressional Black Caucus, every African ambassador to Washington as well as Nelson Mandela, it has not been passed. Why? Because the AFL-CIO and UNITE! have used their influence and connections to block its passage. Not because they care about the millions of Africans who are living poverty, but because they don't want to lose power. The question before us is do we want to join an organization that will be controlled by these groups and other like-minded ones?

There is another organization that the college can join in its fight against sweatshops. The Fair Labor Association (FLA) grew out of the Apparel Industry Partnership, which was initiated by the White House in August 1996.

The FLA is a partnership of numerous human and labor rights groups, corporations in the apparel industry and 134 colleges and universities (including Colby, Hamilton, Dartmouth, Yale, Harvard and Princeton). The FLA is the established and mainstream leader in the struggle to stop sweatshop labor. I have spoken with administrators from the FLA and personally believe that it would be a better choice for Middlebury College than the WRC.

No one wants to see Middlebury College continue to sell clothing made in sweatshops. Let us, however, be certain that the monitoring organization that we choose to join acts in both the best interests of the workers and the College.

Thank you for your time.

Rehbach expresses concern over postings

Jeff Rehbach

A number of concerns have recently arisen regarding postings to the Forum on the Middlebury Daily Jolt web site. I offer my thoughts about this subject in the spirit of community discussion.

Just to make the record clear, no official organizational relationship exists between Middlebury College's web site (www.middlebury.edu) and middlebury.dailyjolt.com. As far as I know, no links exist from any official College web page to Daily Jolt's web site, although some individuals may have links from their personal pages to the dailyjolt site. As a website developed by and for students at Middlebury, DailyJolt includes links to various pages on the official Middlebury College web site.

The content and language of some of the recent daily jolt Forum discussions have brought attention to the issue of free speech on the web. Zach Tofias '00 posts the following: "The Daily Jolt would like to remind our users to be respectful of one another. The Daily Jolt has purposely not adopted a blanket policy of censorship because we feel that meaningful discussion is better than no discussion." He also refers users to a Daily Jolt policy statement, which I excerpt below:

"You must abide by any policies posted on the Daily Jolt... The Daily Jolt does not control the Content posted via the Service and, as such, does not guarantee the accuracy, integrity or quality of such Content. By using the Service, you may be exposed to Content that is offensive, indecent or objectionable... You agree to not use the Service to: upload, post, email or otherwise transmit any Content that is unlawful, harmful, threatening, abusive, harassing, tortuous, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, libelous, invasive of another's privacy, hateful, or racially, ethnically or otherwise objectionable..."

Although it may be a matter of opinion what is vulgar, obscene, hateful, and objectionable, it is my own sense that by most reasonable standards, these adjectives may be applied to several of the postings under the recent Forum discussions, "March for Pussy!" Although Mr. Tofias's claim that meaningful discussion is better than no discussion, I personally am embarrassed that some individuals, presumably affiliated with Middlebury College, may find the Pussy forum meaningful, and hence continue to contribute to it. Since Daily Jolt indicates that its Forum service is not to be used in objectionable ways, I would, if asked, advise those responsible for the Daily Jolt to remove this Forum topic, and simply explain that too many of the postings violate the site's policy; given that those responsible for posting these messages are anonymous, and perhaps may not even be affiliated with the college, this also contributes to a decision to remove a particular Forum topic.

If a similar incident were to occur in regards to the College's official web site, we would follow College Handbook policies in taking appropriate action. We would attempt to contact any individuals posting such content to discuss with them harassment and community standards policies, particularly in reference to the Middlebury College Handbook: "Flagrant disrespect for persons, flouting of common standards of decency, behavior unbecoming of a Middlebury student, or continued behavior that demonstrates contempt for the generally accepted values of an intellectual community may result in disciplinary action." What may begin as a joke or as a personal expression, but extends itself to something much larger, is an action for which any individual in our community ought to take appropriate responsibility. If the posted materials, within the context of Handbook policies, are agreed by appropriate college officials to violate privacy, intimidate others, or be an act of violence in word against another, we would take action to remove content and notify those responsible for is posting of the reason for our actions. I hope such incidents would be few (if ever) and far between. I have confidence that members of our community take their actions in word and deed seriously, and act responsibly whether in face-to-face contact with one another or as part of our "virtual" community.

Jeff Rehbach is Director of Information Technology Services.

Palsrok criticizes Fellowship's decision

(continued from page 10)

nor wrong, but rather is another way in which humans can love one another and thus do God's will. How could a committed relationship based on love be contrary to God's will for us? Furthermore, what right do we have to prohibit someone from his or her inalienable right to love another person? Moreover, what right do we have to say that that love is sinful or wrong? If the ability to love is endowed to us by our Creator than what right do we have to take that gift away? Many conservative Christians define homosexuality as a violation of the Scripture, because they are unable to see that being gay is about more than just sex. I encourage you, Christian or non-Christian, to think about what you believe to be true about homosexuality, and why?

The most asked question in the past seven months has been "Don't you think you are doing more harm then good? I mean, come on, so they think homosexuality is wrong, so do a lot of people; the fact is Christian Fellowship does a lot of good for people on this campus and in the surrounding community." I would never deny the good that Christian Fellowship has done, is doing, and will continue to do. I was a part of the Fellowship for a year, and I remember that the first time I went to a CF worship meeting, I told a friend that it was like coming home. It was so great to praise God in the community of other Christians.

Christian Fellowship is a necessary part of the Middlebury community and an essential support network for many conservative Christians. I have also seen and experienced first hand, however, the pain and hurt caused by their intolerance and prejudice towards Ryan. I fear for the countless other Christians, who have gone, are going, and will go to Christian fellowship, who are questioning their sexual orientation. Without a proper support group, how might they respond if they are told as Ryan had been that they are adulterers living in sin against the will of God.

We have been encourage by many to just let this issue slide in order to save the face of the Christian community on this campus, I feel that doing that would only further weaken the body of Christ on this campus. To ignore this issue and say, "Oh, we don't want to expose the Christian fellowship," would be like putting cover-up on a nasty pimple: just because you can't see it doesn't me an it isn't there and doesn't mean it doesn't hurt. We must deal with this issue and we must come to some kind of common understanding, even if we just simply agree to disagree.

Finally we must do this together. Christianity is often perceived as a battleground for Satan, and Christians are always targeting themselves as the victim. Let us not see each other as the enemy. Let us instead see one another as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us take each other's hand and think together, learn together and pray together. Let this not be an issue that divides us. In this light, Ryan and I invite everyone to Mead Chapel on Thursday night at 8:00 for prayer and meditation. Together, with love and bravery, I am confident that we will reach a common ground.

Former Fellowship member calls for group to lose funding

(continued from page 11)

friends at C.F., to recognize that whatever you choose to believe about homosexuality, it is not worth dividing the Christians on this campus about. Divisions are needless and fruitless. In fact, divisions about homosexuality are a waste of time and emotion when there are deep spiritual and physical needs to address on this campus and in our world. Paul reminds us what is important: "For what I received I passed on to you as of first-importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." (I Corinthians 15:3-4). Everything else is of lesser significance to our faith. Should not we be able to recognize our differences about homosexuality, yet still worship together, pray together, and shepherd together? C.F. has been able to agree to disagree about numerous other doctrines, like the number of Sacraments (both Protestants and Catholics serve on the present leadership team). Why can't we agree to disagree about homosexuality? It is not of "first-importance" to Christianity. (We have a chance to begin to agree to disagree this Thursday at the Chapel. Please come to the prayer vigil at eight o'clock in the evening. It can function as a beginning toward reconciliation between Christians on this campus.)

My final remarks are the same as my first ones. I am a follower of Christ. I am gay. I am alive. Furthermore, I should not have been kept off the ballot in C.F. last year.

And so I appeal to you today. My hope is that reason will triumph over ignorance, acceptance over discrimination, love over prejudice. You, the Christian community, the student body, the faculty, and the administration, can make that happen.

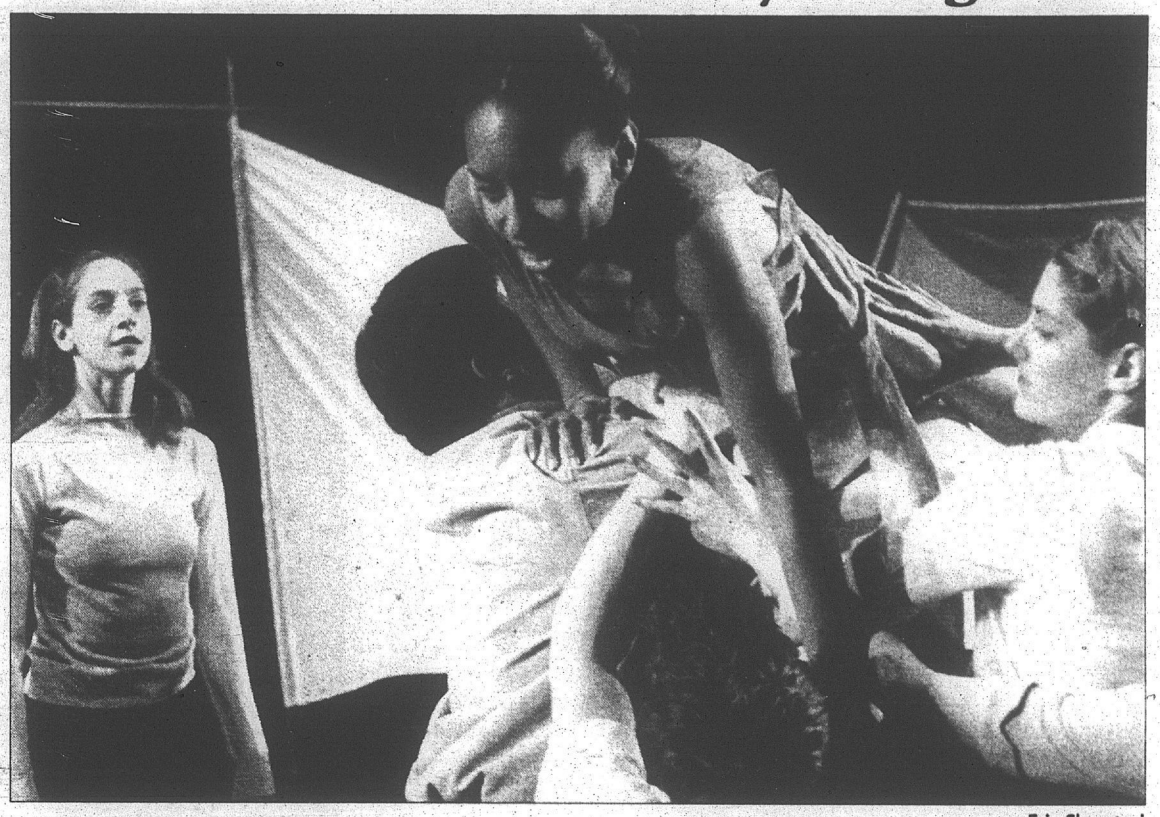
"Felt Presence of an Absence" moves with beauty and grace

By Elizabeth Logue
Staff Writer

"I'm not looking. I'm just sort of... overlooking," announces Paul Matteson '00, inches away from the first row of audience members of the Dance Theatre at the Center for the Arts on Friday and Saturday, March 10 and 11. Matteson's fellow members of the Dance Company of Middlebury continue to dance on the stage in Peter Schmitz's "Felt Presence of an Absence" while Matteson continues his dramatic dialogue of uncertainty, which becomes more frantic and doubtful as it goes on. The speech seems to reflect the pain and uncertainty of love. Trying to decide how to deal with this pain, Matteson addresses the audience, crossing the invisible line between performers and viewers.

In a three-year collaborative project in honor of Middlebury's Bicentennial, the performers of "Felt Presence of an Absence" include four alumni, Katherine Ferrier '91, Lisa Gonzales '93.5, Pamela Vail '90 and Paul Matteson '00, who is back from a three-year professional leave to complete his final credit here at Middlebury. There are also five full-time Middlebury students involved in the piece: Sam Elmore '00.5, Sean Hoskins '01.5, Ashley Murray '00.5, Whitney Robinson '01 and Alison Stoll '00. Most of the musical accompaniment is by Michael Chorney and Robinson Morse, both members of ViperHouse, a nine instrument touring group. Chorney and Morse are both brilliant musicians, and their presence on stage adds an additional dimension to the piece as a whole. Unlike many dance performances, in which the musician is often invisible and almost forgotten, Schmitz opted to keep the musicians on stage for "Felt Presence," creating harmonious unity between the dancers and the music.

The only objects on stage consisted of three different white screens, a set designed by landscape architect Ann Kearsley, pulled taut by wooden frames at either side. The dancers move the screens, which resemble sails, to different locations in the space several times during the hour-long performance. There are also times at which the dancers move behind the sheer white sails. Combined with the spectacular lighting design of Jennifer Ponder, lighting designer for the dance program, the shadows cast from the lights support the three main mind-frames of the piece: the memory, present and fantasy.



Eric Skovsted

The result of a three-year collaborative project, "Felt Presence of an Absence," played in the CFA last weekend.

Starting in reflection, Katherine Ferrier '91 and Sam Elmore '00.5, attempt to remember choreography by speaking out loud and casually marking through movement material. The other dancers remain toward the back of the space while Ferrier and Elmore work in a rehearsal atmosphere. Emotions of frustration and exasperation are exchanged between the two, a realistic scenario for a rehearsal scene.

From reflection the dancers move into present time, and each one talks out loud in an apparently improvisational but meticulously rehearsed manner. They repeat movements and attempt to learn movement from each other. It is clear that some are teachers and others are the students learning the steps and technique. The dancers move gracefully in small groups in different areas on the stage making it a difficult task for the audience to decide where to look. The chaos formed by the movement of dancers lifting each other from the ground in beautifully formed shapes and other dancers giving direction seems to be symbolic of a specific relationship. The dancers are willed to do whatever the demanding director wants.

The rehearsal scene, which represents the "present" mind-frame, smoothly evolves into the fantasy world. Lighting changes from bright white stage lights to a darker brownish light and eventually completely shuts off, the dancers then using flashlights to light the stage. Just as a flashlight would be used to find one's way around in the dark, the dancers walk slowly lighting each other while creating

(see Dance, page 15)

McCarthy novel poised for transition to film

By Mike Goldstein
Staff Writer

It has been said on numerous occasions that variety is the spice of life. I happen to agree with this sentiment and, as such, am going to temporarily do away with the movie re-view, and replace it with a film pre-view. For after all, the prefix "re" implies repetition, and the phrase "repetition is the spice of life" seldom escapes the pursed lips of your average wit (even those with only half of one). Therefore, this week I will be discussing an upcoming film that is slated for release this fall. It is a Mike Nichols-produced screen adaptation of the first book in Cormac McCarthy's "Border Trilogy," "All the Pretty Horses." Directed by none other than Billy Bob Thornton ("Sling Blade," "Daddy and Them"), the film stars Matt Damon, Henry Thomas, Lucas Black, and Penelope Cruz, just to name a few.

Set both in Texas and Mexico during 1949, this is the story of 16 year old John Grady Cole's (Damon) struggle to find his new place in the world after the sale of his late-grandfather's Texas ranch. Horses are this young man's life and he sees working on a cattle ranch as the second best thing to dying and going to heaven. Such

(see Pretty Horses, page 16)

"Mission to Mars" thrills with effects

By Mike Cordaro
Staff Writer

The year is 2020, and NASA is finally able to send astronauts to Mars to test its suitability for colonization. During the farewell party that opens "Mission to Mars," we are first introduced to these astronauts as people who will be traveling millions of miles away from their families and loved ones.

Luc (Don Cheadle) must coax his sad young son out of the treehouse by promising that he will bring a copy of the book that they had been reading into outer space so they can both find out what happens in the end. Another member of the crew works his best lines on the women present, saying "this is going to be my last night on earth, and it could be something special."

It is this mixed humanity that propels the ethno-mixed team into space and serves as the foundation for the film. For although it seeks to ask, and answer, the question of whether there is any life outside the bounds of Earth, its main focus is on the relationships that form while everyone is still under the effects of gravity.

When the first team, led by Luc, mysteriously loses contact with the mission center, a second team is sent after them, their mission plan changed from research to rescue. This team is led by Woody McConnell (Tim Robbins) who also shares the space shuttle with his wife, Maggie (Kim Delaney).

Also on board is Jim Blake (played by a tired-looking Gary Sinise), who we learn was one of the pioneers in developing the methods and protocol of travel to Mars, but lost his original spot in the rotation of astronauts when he left the program to care for his dying wife. The final member of the crew is Phil (Jerry O'Connell) who provides a bit of comic relief and common sense to the serious crew. At one point, Phil takes the time to construct the genetic code of his perfect woman using M&Ms.

When the crew finally reaches the barren surface of Mars, they find that there is, in fact, life on the red planet, and it has a whole lot in common with the human race.

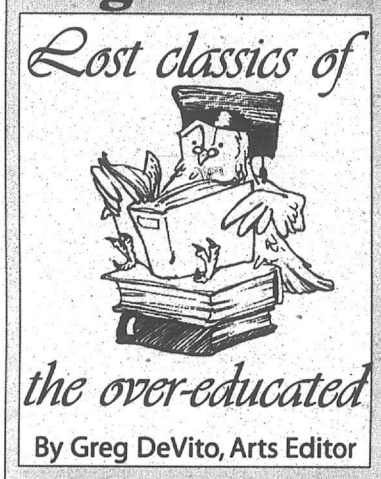
(see Mission, page 15)

Voices in harmony

Eric Skovsted

Raising their voices in song, *the Middlebury College Chamber Choir, directed by John Milsom, enchanted the audience in the Center for the Arts last Friday, singing a program of traditional European and American songs. The choir has a tour of Europe planned for the upcoming break.*

"Seize the Day" scares graduating seniors



By Greg DeVito, Arts Editor

Throughout "Seize the Day" by Saul Bellow, the protagonist, Tommy Wilhelm, experiences a certain sense of stifling entrapment which stems from his inability to discover his niche in society. Tommy views his failure in life as a direct result of his inability to vent his excess "energy." This energy represents Tommy's true self. Wilhelm constantly seeks help from outside sources. This demonstrates the fundamental flaw in his character. His discussions with Dr. Tamkin illustrate Wilhelm's problems. However, even when confronted by the cause of his difficulties, Wilhelm refuses to search internally for a solution. At the conclusion of the novel, Wilhelm finally appears to discover his tragic flaw. Thus, he seems to gain the new sense of self and direction which he so desperately seeks throughout the novel.

Tommy seems to feel a certain amount of energy or potential which prohibits him from succeeding in the conventional sense. This inability to vent his "energy" or true desires appears to represent the major obstacle in Tommy's life. Tommy regrets his desire to "distinguish [himself]." This suggests that he never truly reveals his nature throughout the novel. Tommy feels that "this energy itself had done him the greatest harm." This implies that his failure to allow his true nature to express itself causes Wilhelm to cripple himself.

Wilhelm attempts to free this stifled entity by changing his name to Tommy. However, this clearly fails. He suggests that his change of name represents a "bid for liberty, Adler being in his mind the title of the species, Tommy the freedom of the person." He wishes to change himself by changing his name. However, he begins to realize that "essentially you can't change." In other words, the individual possesses some sort of essence which cannot be altered. This essence appears to be the "energy" which Wilhelm feels causing him harm. Wilhelm identifies the name "Willky" with his essence or "inescapable self." Wilhelm finds this self to be overpowering and domineering.

While regretting his failed life and foolish decisions which mask his true self, Wilhelm appeals to a higher power to release him. He literally appeals to his father, yet figuratively he seems to pray to God for release. He repeatedly requests, "Let me out." This suggests that he feels trapped. He wants "a different life. For [he] is all balled up." This seems to represent a contradictory request. In requesting a different life, Wilhelm demonstrates his failure to comprehend his problem fully. He feels restricted due to his refusal to accept his true self. Thus, Wilhelm appeals to a higher power in order to resolve a self imposed situation.

Tamkin describes the struggles of Wilhelm while expounding upon the idea of the "real soul" and the "pretender soul." Tamkin suggests that each person consists of both a real soul and a pretender soul. The pretender seeks gratification in the outside world. Thus, man feels "that he must go outward." This clearly depicts Wilhelm's appeals to both his father and Tamkin. Tamkin continues to suggest that the interest of the pretender soul represents "the society mechanism." This statement catches "Wilhelm's heart". He feels that his need to accommodate the will of society and the monetary demands of that society represents his fundamental obstacle. Tamkin then suggests that this stifling of the true soul causes man to become a "dangerous … killer." This violence certainly evidences itself in Wilhelm's character.

The violent manner in which he demonstrates his state of existence to his father seems to imply that Wilhelm cannot escape the need to satisfy his pretender soul. Wilhelm "began to choke himself" while attempting to illustrate the emotions associated with his marriage. This violent and physical description seems to adhere to Tamkin's theory of souls. Similarly, Wilhelm describes his state of mind as "suffocation or apoplexy." This implies that Wilhelm's true soul exists in a stifled state. He continues to suggest that he cannot "catch [his] breath." Wilhelm's true soul receives no sustenance or gratification as he constantly obeys his pretender soul. He always seeks solutions from the outside world rather than from himself.

During the climactic final scene of the novel, Wilhelm seems to experience a catharsis in which he recognizes "his heart's ultimate need." Wilhelm stumbles in upon the funeral of a "gray-haired" man who "was not old." Wilhelm immediately identifies with this man who died before his time. Wilhelm mourns for the dead man who "on the surface…looked so proper; only a little beneath so-black…so fallen in the eyes." Wilhelm weeps for this man who died without overcoming the problems with which Wilhelm struggles. Despite his efforts to "collect himself" or appear proper, Wilhelm "cried with all his heart." This clearly demonstrates Wilhelm's complete and utter surrender. He no longer attempts to adhere to the mechanisms of society. By casting off this appearance of propriety Wilhelm allows himself to quench "his heart's ultimate need", freedom and peace of mind.

"Seize the Day" by Saul Bellow is certainly a wonderful novel. However, it is also quite a depressing read. Nonetheless, I feel that it is my duty as a Literary Studies Major to recommend any and all depressing texts to the masses. Don't worry, I have not spoiled the plot too much!

Going solo

Andrew Corrigan

Abandoning fellow members of The Samples, *guitarist and vocalist Sean Kelly played an acoustic set in McCullough last Saturday night. The show took on a mellow tone with Kelly taking several requests.*

Asleep Till 3 keeps Tavern awake

By Greg DeVito
Arts Editor

Anyone who attended the debauch at Tavern this past Saturday must surely have been thoroughly incapacitated for most of Sunday morning and afternoon. This article is a thorough reconstruction of the events which preceded the aforementioned groggy Sunday morning. What did you expect from a band called Asleep Till 3?

Asleep Till 3 delivered a stellar performance this past Saturday night at Tavern. Most of the audience members were reluctant to reveal their personal opinions concerning the show, citing "extenuating and potentially embarrassing circumstances." Clearly there was a bit too much imbibing and debauchery as is the custom at many Middlebury festivities. Nonetheless, this reporter was on the scene.

I first spoke with several members of the band. Crary Myers '00 (guitar) from Elmira, NY was extremely modest in his judgment of their performance. He believed that the band "started off slowly and finished off slowly, but the bulk of the performance was a great time." I think that he grossly understated the calibre of the performance on Saturday. From what I could tell, everyone had a fantastic time throughout the entire show!

Asleep Till 3 is a super party band. Featuring Jason Wolk '00 and Crary Myers '00 (guitars), Dan Graham '01 (bass), Grant Stuart '00 (drums), Kirsten Rohstedt '01 (vocals) and Brendan Donnelly '01 (lead vocals), this band mainly plays covers of an eclectic mix of musicians. However, the band also played several completely original works. Overall, their playing was professional as well as quite enjoyable.

In my opinion, the best tune of the evening was clearly "Hungry Like A Wolf" by Duran Duran. Maybe I'm just a sucker for eighties tunes, but Brendan Donnelly really could pass for Simon LeBonne! Brendan already acts like a rock star, so don't be surprised if you see him on the cover of "Rolling Stone" one day. The remainder of the band is also quite talented.

Asleep Till 3 truly breathed new life into many of the tunes that they selected to cover. The most impressive facet of the performance was certainly the wide range of tunes. From the Beatles to SNAP, Asleep Till 3 demonstrated a familiarity with just about every form of music. Moreover, the band possessed an extraordinary ability to shift between the many genres of music within their arsenal.

In essence, if you did not catch one of Asleep Till 3's performances this weekend, where have you been spending your nights?

At the peak of their performance, Asleep Till 3 belted out a soulful rendition of Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get It On." Clearly this song resonated throughout the crowd at Tavern. Soon afterwards, the crowd began to dissipate in search of the perennial 'hook-up.' Since I was fairly certain that I was not going to 'get it on,' I managed to catch the remainder of the performance.

In essence, if you did not catch one of Asleep Till 3's performances this weekend, where have you been spending your nights? Hopefully, this trend of live performances at Social Houses will not fade away like so many other Middlebury fads.

It can't be easy to get up there and belt out the lyrics to "Rhythm is a Dancer." However, countless Middlebury students are willing to stand up and give it a shot. Asleep Till 3 proves that Middlebury students can bring the funk.

Asleep Till 3 played for most of the night, totaling in the end about 20 songs. This is quite a feat considering the very same band played the previous evening at the Mill.

That performance was also a blast. The crowd felt energized and lively, the band seemed to have fun, security was there sporadically and, of course, everyone slept till at least 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

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"Mission to Mars," though driven by effects, stays on course

(continued from page 13)
The Martian they meet is the stereotypical one, big round head, bulbous eyes, and a long skinny neck. I guess that that has become the expected, and easy, portrayal of Martians, though it would be nice to see a little alien variation every now and then. The Martian's story is an interesting, though far-fetched, one. It questions not only their existence but ours as well.

The special effects in Mission to Mars are pretty cool, but not overdone. And the presence of actors such as Robbins and Sinise give the film a better grounding than most race-to-space flicks, as they actually develop some depth to their characters. The scene in which Woody takes the opportunity of weightlessness to finally dance gracefully with his wife, while Jim looks on in anguish, is charming, yet without being sappy.

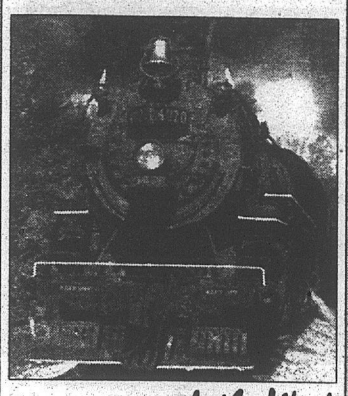
Mission to Mars is an entertaining ride of a movie that only seems weightless at a few points. Its answer to what happened to life on Mars will amuse you, even if seems a bit contrived. But since the film is more about the journey than the destination, it does not overshadow its other merits.

Mission to Mars is rated PG-13 and is currently playing at the Marquis Theater in downtown Middlebury.

Rating: ★★★.5

Photos capture Hudson Line transition

ArtWork



of the Week

Brian Guercio, Artist
Chat Ortved, Arts Editor

Artist's Give

This idea was born a few years ago while riding the train from my Aunt and Uncle's house in Croton-on-Hudson to New York City. I remember being struck at that time by the beauty of the Hudson River and the fascinating decay around the perimeter of the city.

This year, I convinced the curriculum committee to let me do an independent project during J-term. In my proposal, I wrote, "I will create a series of photographs depicting the spectrum of human impact along the railway between Grand Central Station in New York City and Croton-on-Hudson in Westchester County. This route skirts the Eastern bank of the Hudson River, continues directly through The Bronx, and terminates in the heart of New York City. It is artistically poignant because it connects the natural landscapes upon which the Hudson River school of painting was founded with the height of urban development in America. In this way, the Hudson Line is a touchstone of America's thorny relationship with its towering, triumphant cities and the natural lands out of which they grew. The careful observer finds along the tracks a clash of philosophies as well as natural and modern conceptions of beauty."

For me, the first part of the process of making a picture, taking the photograph, is an emotional experience. I think of each picture as an impulsive documentation of a distinct place. In other words, I walked around and allowed my impression of each place to guide my camera.

The second part, printing the picture, is a very unemotional experience, unless frustration is a particularly artistic emotion. Printing a picture is more of an intellectual experience. I spent a lot of time thinking carefully about the relationship between my perceptions of the places and the compositional choices that my negatives presented.

Editor's Take

I am constantly amazed at the breadth of artistic talent present at Middlebury College. Not only organized theatre, dance and musical productions, but individual and often independent student works carry with them the professionalism and artistry perhaps unexpected in undergraduate creations. Brian Guercio's photography project, "Hudson Line Departures," an independent study he undertook over this past J-term, is no exception.

A series of photographs taken at various places along the Hudson line, "Hudson Line Departures" starkly yet with an artistic gentleness contrasts images of the natural world with icons of the city. In one print, a seagull soars through a grey sky, the curves of its body and wings set in conscious juxtaposition with the top of a drab skyscraper. This theme of contrast continues throughout the vast majority of the prints, the straight lines and sharp angles of the manufactured world jutting obtrusively on the finely curved chaos of nature. In one memorable photograph, Guercio captures a water treatment plant behind a tree, a silhouette of a series of twigs and branches jutting randomly from a rough trunk. Despite these contrasting elements, however, the photograph appears in such a way as to make the smoothly defined building and the tree part of the same image, as necessary one with the other in the moment of exposure.

Some of the pictures display a single side of the spectrum, the straight lines of a series of railway tracks angling off towards the top of the frame, for example. The true successes of the show, however, the pictures that stand as testament to the talent and vision that went into this project, are those like the seagull and skyscraper, the treatment plant and tree, the photographs that show the assumed unity between city and natural world in this time. A bridge, straight and white, crosses a landscape marked by rolling hills and flowing hues, yet within Guercio's context the two are necessary together. Both the timing and the setting of his project is perfect.

He has displayed the trains, those of the Hudson line specifically, as windows to the wasteland of the city, harbingers of unchecked urban sprawl and the ironically beautiful contrasts it creates with the surrounding natural world. No longer the key to the opening of a continent, a heavy link in the chain that closed frontiers, Guercio's railroads represent the relentless passage of time, allowing the passengers to stare through their windows at a tenacious landscape dragged further and further into the booming concrete sprawl of the city.

Dance show's beauty, precision merit praise

(continued from page 13)
beautiful shadows on the bare walls off stage.

Sarah Messer '88 writes most of the poetic and creative dialogue in the performance. The dancers are dramatic, their voices carrying clearly throughout the Dance Theatre. Like the sails on the stage, the transitions between the present to fantasy is clear through the lighting and by the dancers' tones of voice, which become more monotone and commanding during the surreal scenes.

As "Felt Presence of an Absence" progresses, the dancers become more and more disheveled, supporting the idea that the piece may be symbolic of a deteriorating romantic relationship. The dancers literally cling to each other, creating stunning patterns on both the stage and in the shadows on the wall. Frantically, they seem to search for something, moving in and out of sight of the audience behind the three sail-like fixtures that are in entirely different locations by the night's end.

From reflection the dancers move into present time, and each one talks out loud in an apparently improvisational but meticulously rehearsed manner.

Despite the drama and sometimes coarse dialogue, the dancers stick together by kissing each other during an upbeat jazz piece and supporting each other both verbally and through the advanced lifts which require the trust of the person being lifted. By night's end I was speechless, and the final image of Paul Matteson sitting alone upstage while the other dancers clustered several feet away from him, was imprinted in my mind. "Felt Presence" was more than just movement choreography. It told a story of pain and togetherness accompanied by tasteful and appropriate live music and moving dialogue. To truly get the full effect of this piece, it would be necessary to see it ten times—once for every single dancer.

After this brilliant performance, the company will be off to New York to perform "Felt Presence" at the Cunningham Studio on March 23 and 24. The alumni concert which includes works from all of the alumni in "Felt Presence," including some more recent graduates, will be at the Cunningham Studio on March 25 at 8 p.m. For now, "Felt Presence" will be put to rest at Middlebury, leaving a powerful image of beauty and grace in the minds of those who saw and enjoyed it.

Arts Smarts

Movies

March 15, 2000

7:30pm Wright Theatre Lounge: TH/EL 341 Film: The Opposite of Sex : Screenplays for all films are on reserve for the course in Starr Library.

March 16, 2000

8:00p.m. Bicentennial Hall 216: Progressives Film: Showdown in Seattle. Come see the Seattle WTO rallies in a way that the corporate media doesn't want you to.

7:30p.m. Twilight Auditorium: TH 244 Film: Catch-22.

7:30p.m. Bicentennial Hall 148: RU 122 Film: Sidewhiskers: A contemporary comedy with subtitles.

Lectures

March 16, 2000

4:00p.m.-6:00p.m. Starr Library Abernethy Room: Reception for Faculty Authors : Come talk and have refreshments with faculty who have published books in the last year. Sponsored by the Dean of the Faculty and Special Collections.

Dance

March 16, 2000

[illegible] Arts Center Dance Studio: Ballet Barre with Whitney Robinson '01.

March 17, 2000

11:30am Arts Center Dance StudioIntermediate Modern: Paul Matteson '97

Music

March 15, 2000

8:00pm CFA Concert Hall: The Clemmons Consort performs "Remembering... The Music of Barber and Copland"

"Pretty Horses" shines with potential and talent

(continued from page 13)

being the case, he is more than a little opposed to his mother's notions of him replacing horses with schoolbooks. He decides to embark in the equestrian style on a search for a new home in Mexico. John Grady is joined by Lacey Rawlins (Thomas), his lifelong friend with whom he shares a brotherly devotion. On their way across the border, they encounter a 13 year-old rapscallion named Jimmy Blevins (Black) and his horse, a big, beautiful Bay whose appearance and worth is the source of countless problems down the road. Their adventure seems ill-fated from the very moment they enter Mexico. Nature and superstition separates Blevins from his two companions, Rawlins and John Grady, who end up finding work on a Mexican hacienda.

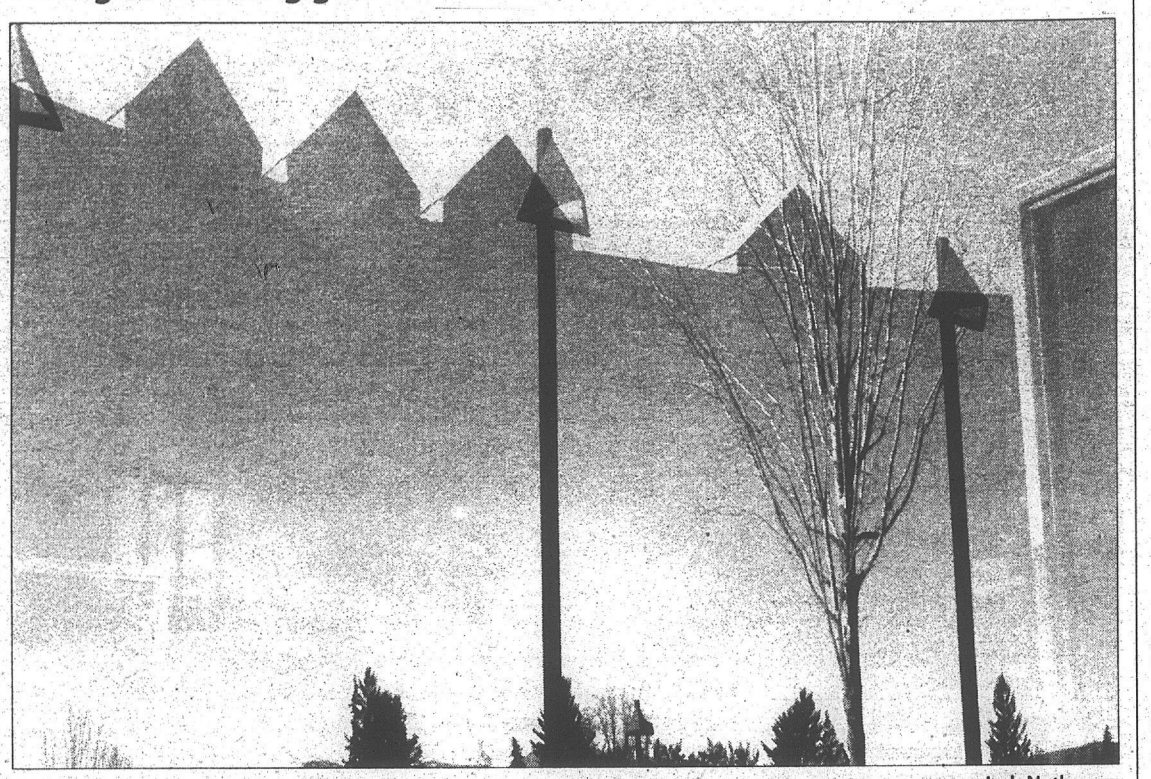
John Grady's extensive knowledge of horses puts him into the good graces of the patron, Don Hector Rocha y Villarael. Cole's respect for Don Hector (Ruben Blades) is dwarfed only by his doomed love for the ranch owner's beautiful daughter, Allejandra (Cruz). Their secret affair culminates in John Grady and Rawlins' arrests for an earlier horse theft and their detention in a Mexican prison that more closely resembles a death camp than a penitentiary. It is while under arrest that they are reunited with Blevins, for after all, it was his horse that they "stole" after it ran away.

While in prison, Rawlins and John Grady are truly forced to put their wits and bravery to the test in order to remain alive long enough to find their ways back home.

If the film is anything like Mr. McCarthy's book, we can expect enrapturing imagery and a beautifully solemn tone throughout the picture. Moreover, it is my sincere hope that Mr. Thornton's direction has enabled Matt Damon to embody the stoic and idolic character of John Grady Cole, a role that is crucial to the success of the picture.

This film is loaded with potential and it would be wonderful to see it live up to popular expectations. The Western is a vanishing genre, and, although this film falls into the contemporary-Western sub-category, it remains one of the few recent movies to depict life in the majestic American West. The necessary ingredients are all there: a talented young cast, an accomplished director, and a terrific story. All that remains uncertain is whether or not they were mixed together properly, and how they will survive in the oven that is public scrutiny.

Through the looking glass



Josh Nothwang

Distorting visions outside the CFA, *the sculpture "Two-way Curved Hedge Zig-Zag Labyrinth" reflects the eastward view of the Green Mountains while at the same time revealing the ramparts of the Center for the Arts.*

Live version of "The Wall" poised for April release

By Chat Ortved
Arts Editor

In light of the apparently dazzling final performance of the Pink Floyd cover band The Machine last weekend, it is perhaps relevant to spend some time considering the upcoming release of a live version of the Floyd's classic 1979 release "The Wall."

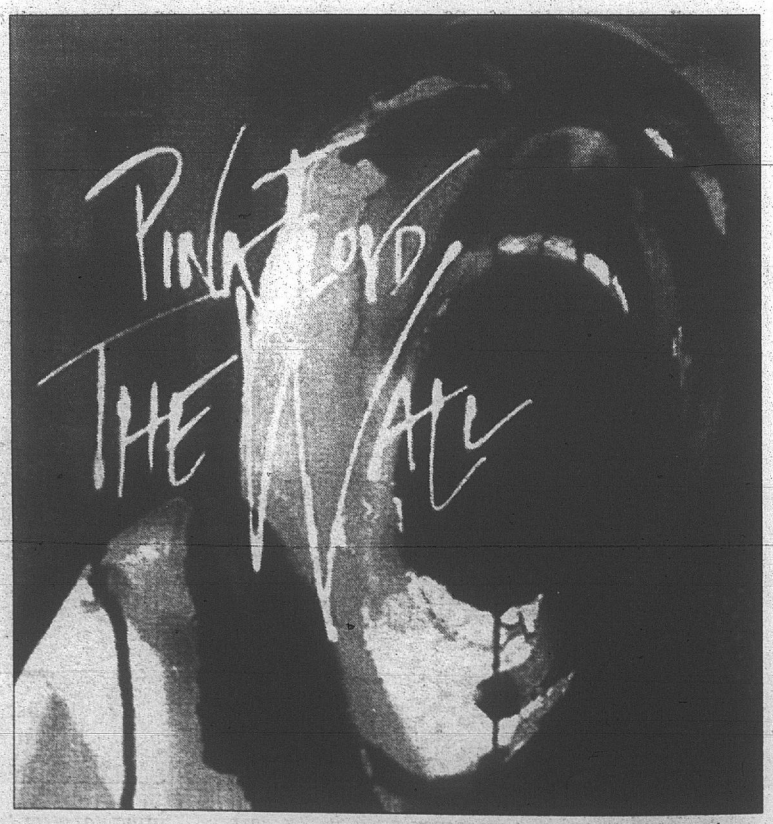
The rumor is that it will be entitled "Is there anybody out there?" a reference to the second song on the second disc of the studio album. This rhetorical question is asked several times throughout the song, as well as repeated once later before the epic Roger Waters and David Gilmour collaboration, "Comfortably Numb."

The question is relevant to the concept behind this brilliant album, a study of the barriers we build to protect ourselves from the outside world. Everyone knows the classics, such as "Another Brick in the Wall Part II" and "Mother," but such less well-known songs as "Nobody Home," "One of my Turns" and "Goodbye Cruel World" provide powerful and often stirring images of self-inflicted alienation. Waters' lyrics, combined with his haunting voice, probe deep inside the heart of the character the album seems to portray, telling of his loneliness and need for separation from the herd of fans that swarm before him. Backstage, with televisions blaring in the background, Roger's words ring clearly above a minor chord played on an organ, lamenting his loneliness: "And I feel cold as a razorblade, tight as a tourniquet, dry as a funeral drum." With too many drugs, too much television and too many shows, the character must wonder if, besides the meaningless cheering herd, "Is there anybody out there?"

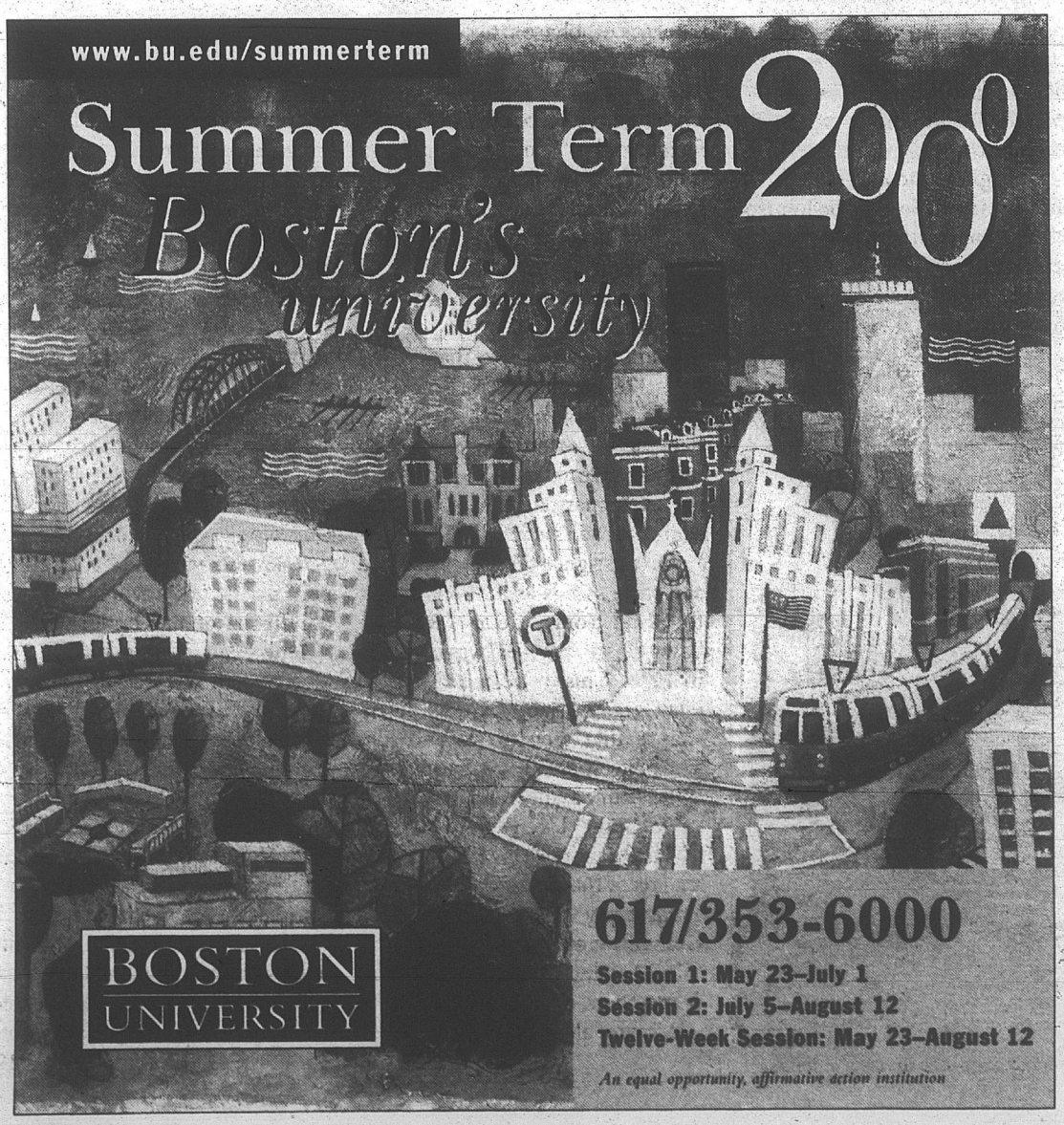
The release of the live album will no doubt be an event for anyone who has heard the original studio album, never mind those who have seen the band live. Having seen a video recording of "The Wall Tour" recorded back in 1980, I will be heading down to the Sound Source as soon as the album hits the shelves, most likely in early to mid-April. The concert was spectacular, and I envy anyone who was there to witness the band as they enjoyed the success of completing their epic, the culmination and eventual downfall of their careers together. Throughout the first half of the show, the crew built up a wall of huge bricks in front of the band, Roger Waters appearing on platforms at various places to sing, Gilmour rising above to play his precise and melodic solos. Almost every song contained the rich harmonies so many bands strive for, Floyd managing it so flawlessly and effortlessly, even live.

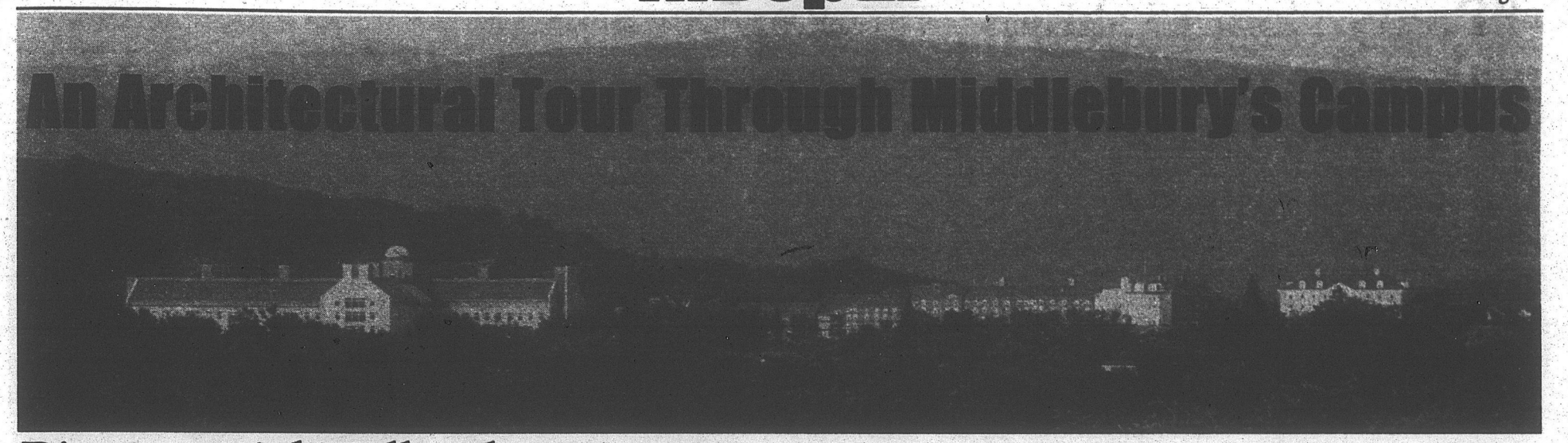
At the point where the first album ends, the end of "Goodbye Cruel World," a crew member put in place the final brick, Roger's face disappearing behind the wall as the words echoed "goodbye." A good deal of the remainder of the concert took place from behind the wall, the end bringing a spectacular crumbling to the chant "tear down the wall."

Of course, the live album will not include these sensational visual images, but in the end what is really important is the music, and even watching this video with my eyes closed would have been an incredible experience. I'm going to go out on a limb and recommend this album to every Floyd fan, whether casual or serious. "The Wall" is Roger Waters' masterpiece, and, relying purely on past precedent, Pink Floyd executed it flawlessly. Having a live version alongside the studio album will complement your collection beautifully. This spring, before the Frisbees start flying and before the sun dries up the infamous Vermont mud, make use of your time inside. Ask yourself, "Is there anybody out there?"



Courtesy photo





An Architectural Tour Through Middlebury's Campus

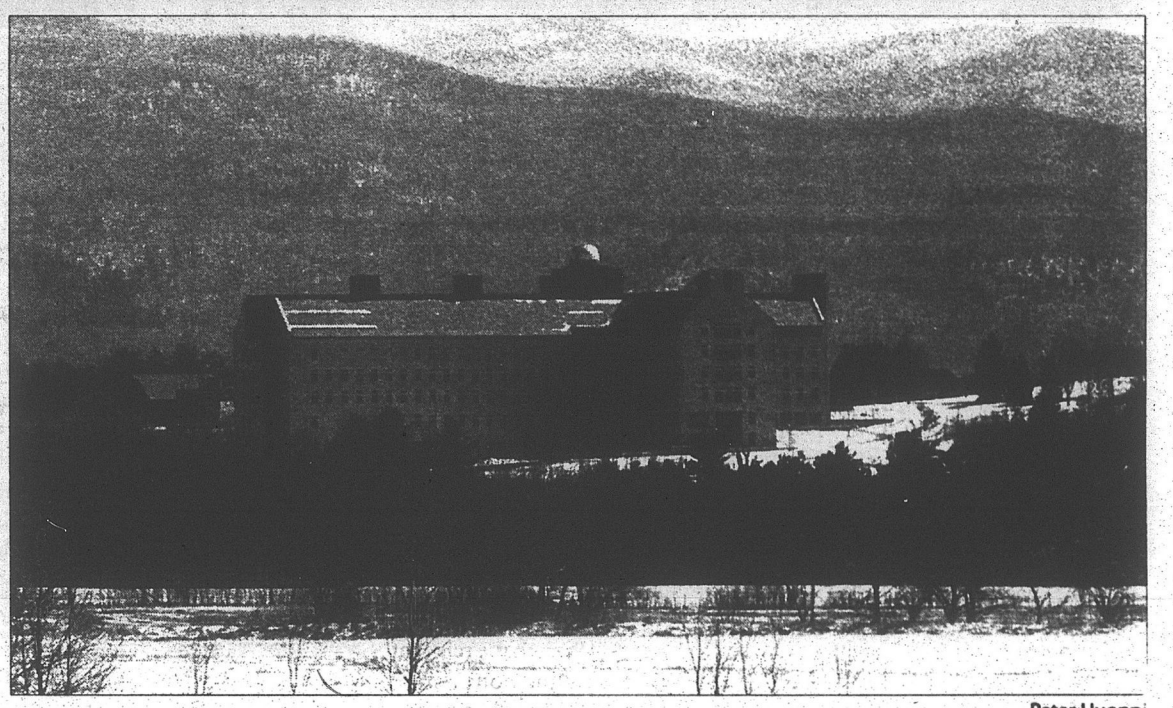
Bicentennial Hall redeems old Science Center's flaws

By Anne DeWitt
In Depth Editor

Taking Winter Term organic chemistry last year meant walking into the old Science Center at 8:30 in the morning for three hours of lecture in one of the dim and chilly first floor classrooms, scarfing a quick bag lunch in the dingy chemistry lounge and then heading off to an afternoon of recrystallization and KBr pellets. The lab was so underheated that I found it necessary to dress in ski clothes—bulky sweaters, woolly socks, long underwear—and, to avoid drafts of frigid January air, I chose a lab bench far away from the windows. The effect of this, however, was that I often left the building in the dark without having seen the sun set.

Of course, I was not the first person to suffer from the Science Center's defects. The building had been causing problems for 30 years, ever since its construction in the late 1960s. "There was a movement in architecture at that time where ... the architecture sought to dominate the environment," says Jim Larrabee, professor of chemistry and associate Dean of the Faculty, calling the old Science Center, with its stark ugliness and proliferation of concrete, "an example of this brutalist school." Not that many people found this a problem at the time. "Science buildings were supposed to look like factories."

Frank Winkler, a physics professor who was heavily involved in the early stages of planning the Science Center's replacement, points out that the structure acts as a wall between the campus and the town. "My hope is that eventually it will disappear," he says, speculating that Old Stone Row "must have been a lovely entrance to the college." Aesthetic considerations were not the only issue with the building. Originally destined to house only physics, geology and chemistry, it was planned with only about 20 faculty members in mind. Furthermore, says Larrabee, the curriculum in the '60s was quite different from today's science programs, so the structure was "designed for a academic science program that was based upon lecture and teaching laboratory and was not based upon involving students in any kind of independent laboratory work." The building was supposed to have a twin structure, with a library connecting the two, but this part of the project never materialized—hence the doors on the south side that lead nowhere. The science library was added on a couple years after completion. "That's why you have this rectangular box growing out of the middle of the roof," explains Larrabee, and even so, it was too small to house the entire collection, which was relegated to Starr Storage.



Peter Huoppi
Seen from Cider Mill Road, the state-of-the-art Bicentennial Hall dominates the view of Middlebury College.

The library's inadequacy combined with the shifts in academic focus that took place and a growing science program to render the Science Center totally inadequate in terms of space. Seminar rooms and small faculty labs gave way to offices, leaving professors with no option but to conduct their research in teaching laboratories, which in turn meant that they could only work on their projects during the summertime.

Summer, however, posed its own set of problems. During the years of the building's construction, low energy prices meant that "it was considered cheaper to buy oil to heat an uninsulated building than it was to insulate the building," according to Larrabee. This lack of insulation, which accounted for the case of frostbite I almost acquired in J-term orgo, made the rooms unbearably stuffy in June and July. Furthermore, any instrumentation that required good climate controls simply could not be used on muggy summer days.

Meanwhile, the concrete was much more than just an eyesore. It produced dust which dirtied laboratories and jammed computers, making the disk drive failure rate twice as high as at any other place on campus. Furthermore, as Winkler pointed out, "Science changes; the interests of the faculty and the students change, and so one is constantly reconfiguring laboratories and so forth." The cinderblock walls of the Science Center were nearly impossible to shift, however, and this lack of flexibility proved a decided drawback. "The architects who did the old building were not people who really had a lot of experience working with science buildings, and the result showed."

One good effect did arise from all of the old Science Center's flaws: when plans for a new science building began, everyone involved knew exactly what not to do. "We were originally thinking of expanding the old Science Center," said Winkler. However, no concrete design ever evolved, because "the farther into this we got, the more evident it became that [enlarging the existing structure] was problematical."

"Had we started with the old building," Winkler says, "we would

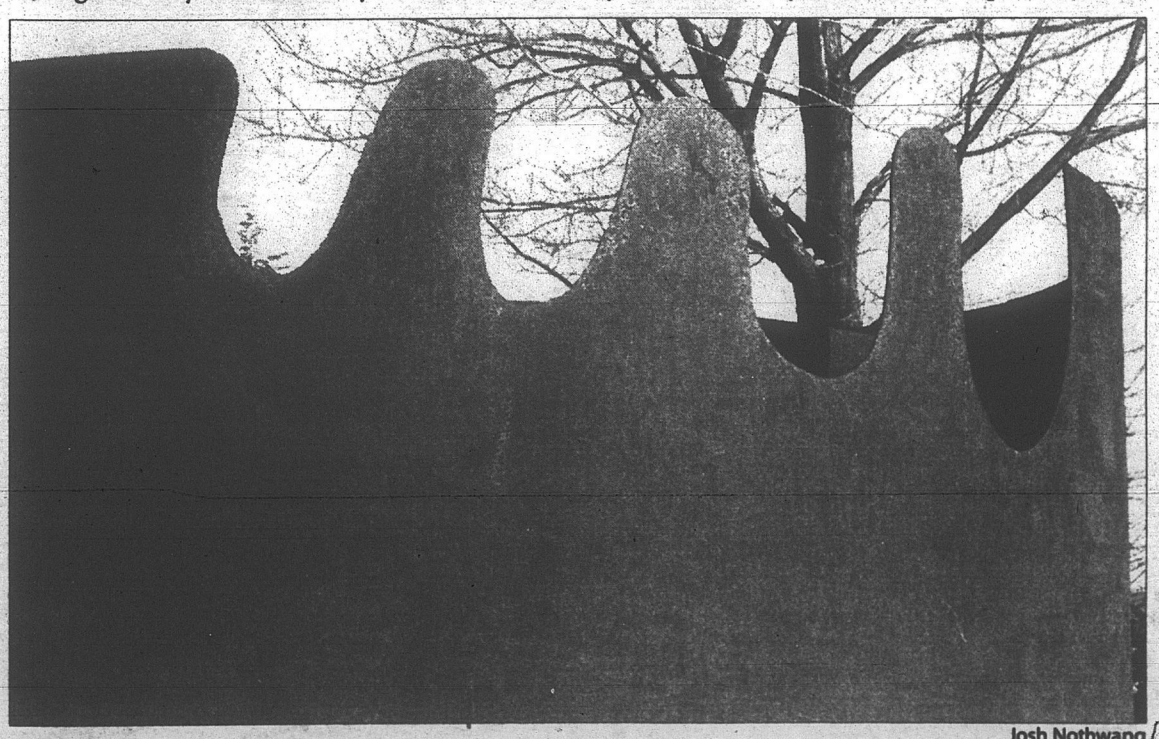
(see Science, page 19)

Campus sculptures enhance Middlebury's beauty

By Julianne Frisbie
In Depth Editor

As you walk through Middlebury College you are most likely struck by its unparalleled natural beauty and unspoiled countryside setting, but it is more than just nature's hand that goes into making Middlebury a picturesque place, perfect enough to be painted. Throughout the years Middlebury has been the lucky recipient of many art-loving patrons who want to make our college's surroundings even more spectacular. As you walk past such prominent buildings as Johnson, Center for the Arts or Bicentennial Hall (who could miss it), you may notice large, sometimes strangely abstract structures decorating their entrances. These sculptures are made by often well-known and extremely talented artists and in a few cases have been commissioned just for a specific site at Middlebury College from the artist himself.

We begin our tour of sculpture at Middlebury College at the Johnson art building inside which aspiring painters or sculptors can be found creating possible masterpieces. As you ascend the steps to the front entrance of Johnson, two large, imposing sculptures stand on either side to greet visitors. The piece on the left (as you face the building) is fittingly titled "King Kong" and was done in cor-ten steel by Jules Olitsky. Its circular shape, with shapely brown steel curving along the inside, give it the impression of movement and its large, monumental presence impress the idea of mammoth power like that which King Kong would surely bring. It was a gift of Sophia Healy, the daughter of Arthur Healy, who for more that 20 years was head of the art department at Middlebury. The sculpture was made in 1973.



Josh Nothwang
King Kong is not just a great movie title, it also works as a fitting name for the imposing sculpture in front of Johnson.

On the right a taller, less massive structure stands as a nice contrast to "King Kong." George Rickey's "Two Open Triangles" was installed in 1976. This vertical, lanky piece has large, swooping geometric shapes that seem to extend like arms into space. It was brought to Middlebury as the result of a "Challenge Grant" by the National Endowment for Arts (NEA) and friends of the college met the challenge to pay for the sculpture. The Committee on Art in Public Places (CAPP), which is made up of faculty members, chose the sculpture.

Moving along to the Center for

(see College, page 18)

Bowker once housed the literary Thomas Fellows

By Kate Robinson
Staff Writer

Once upon a time, deep in the heart of the dark, dank Ridgeline Woods, there lay a small red cottage by the name of Bowker House. In this snug bungalow, away from the tempestuous McCullough gale, the Thomas Fellows walked to and fro', speaking of Michelangelo. In the forest, among cronies, it was the central roost for informal intellectual feasts and forums.

In the late '80s, Professor Robert Pack and his wife, Patty, collaborated their idealistic energies to pursue intellectual exchange on campus from a social angle. They wanted to create a different form of the Commons, something closer to a literary society. Rather than a residence-based association, this was to be a more intimate cluster of people congregating on the basis of shared interests. The idea was to form an alternative to the alcohol-based, "mindless" partying of the fraternities, by creating a society that would be mentally stimulating.

"Continuity," Professor Pack repeated, was one of their primary aspirations in starting the Thomas Fellowship, a society that would gather in the Bowker House. They would emphasize literary recreation and scintillating conversation. They would invite formal speakers and listen to each other's work. They would celebrate cerebral turbulence. And they did. According to John Bertolini, "they had a loyal clientele that attended regularly." Their forums would often lure 50 to 60 people, and their discussions would last for hours.

Among its many distinguishing features, the Thomas Fellowship emphasized a more mature camaraderie between the faculty and students. They sat side by side at discussions and dinner parties. They read and critiqued each other's work. Representatives from either side of the diploma served on the council and determined events. Says Professor Robert Hill, "It was a unique situation. Everyone was welcome to attend, and if you showed up regularly, you were allowed to cast your vote in the election of officials and events."

Professor Pack recalls his days in the Bowker House as some of his "happiest memories at Middlebury." Among the devoted, there were many merry recollections of cozy study sessions, poetry readings, research and critical writing forums, guest lecturers and the inevitable lively debates that would follow for hours afterward.

With the advent of a renovated kitchen, it was not unusual for the Bowker House to host receptions and discussions for campus lecturers, as well as their own. Remembered especially fondly are the symposiums on Darwinism and Plato, and Professor Wolfson's lecture on Leonardo DaVinci. Professors often combined forces to form panels, such as the Perrini, Pack and Hill trio, who spoke about Frost, and the Elder, Pack and Sanders trio, who discussed Wordsworth's poem "Michael." Anne Beattie held a reading, and students read their own creative writing.

The Thomas Fellowship was notorious for its sumptuous feasts and innovative social gatherings. They had masked balls, musical soirées (putting their piano into form), cruises on Lake Champlain (which Professor Hill gleefully remembers as one of the coldest nights of his life) and jaunts to New York City to haunt the opera. Their annual events included early autumn poetry readings and Christmastime recitals of, "A Child's Christmas in Wales," followed by seasonal madrigals. Bowker House is remembered by many as an all-around jolly hive of intellectual mirth.

One question still plagues us, though. If this was such a successful organization, why is it gone? Why do we not have the opportunity to join this marvelous society of wit and prose? Where are we to turn for extracurricular enlightenment? Is our college generation to be deprived of readings, be they soothing bedtime tales or scathing works of contemporary brilliance?

When I asked the last of the Thomasonians about the Great Fall, I discovered that the remaining sentiments continue to smolder. When the Packs retired, the Thomas Fellowship packed up as well. Some say it ran its course, some say that it was outdated by the new Commons System, and some simply lament it was ever lost. But where was the controversy?

It seems to strip down to the simple question of whether, as it aged, the Thomas Fellowship became an increasingly intimate organization, or an intensively exclusive one. How far did its elitism extend? Professor Hill points out that it was "really elite; all you had to do was walk in the front door." From others, there seemed to be a darker impression of exclusion. Whatever the main consensus, the society closed down two years ago. However you view the social progression on campus after the burial of the Thomas Fellowship, I'll leave to you to mull over. Regardless, be inspired to inquire after this ghost society. Its traces continue to haunt those it left behind.

Peter Huoppi
Set back into the trees of Ridgeline Woods, Bowker House was once home to the now defunct Thomas Fellowship.

College makes committment to art acquisition

(continued from page 17)
the Arts (CFA), we discover two major installment sculptures, one inside and one outside the doors. As you enter the building from the side facing the outdoor track, there is a spacious, semi-circular patio with a large sculpture by Dan Graham with an equally large name "Two-Way Curved Hedge Zig-Zag Labyrinth," which basically describes itself in the title. This piece is quite interactive, and you can walk in and around the sculpture and see your own reflection in its sections. This piece is a recent addition and was installed in 1996. It is particularly important because it was commissioned specifically for the site directly behind the CFA. It was donated by several patrons including the Overbrook Foundation, the Julliet Lea Hillman Simonds Foundation, the Frederick and Martha Lapham Art Acquisition Fund and the Walter Serf Acquisition Fund. The sculpture, made of glass, steel and arb orvitae nigra (green hedge), was also accepted by the Committee on Art in Public Places.

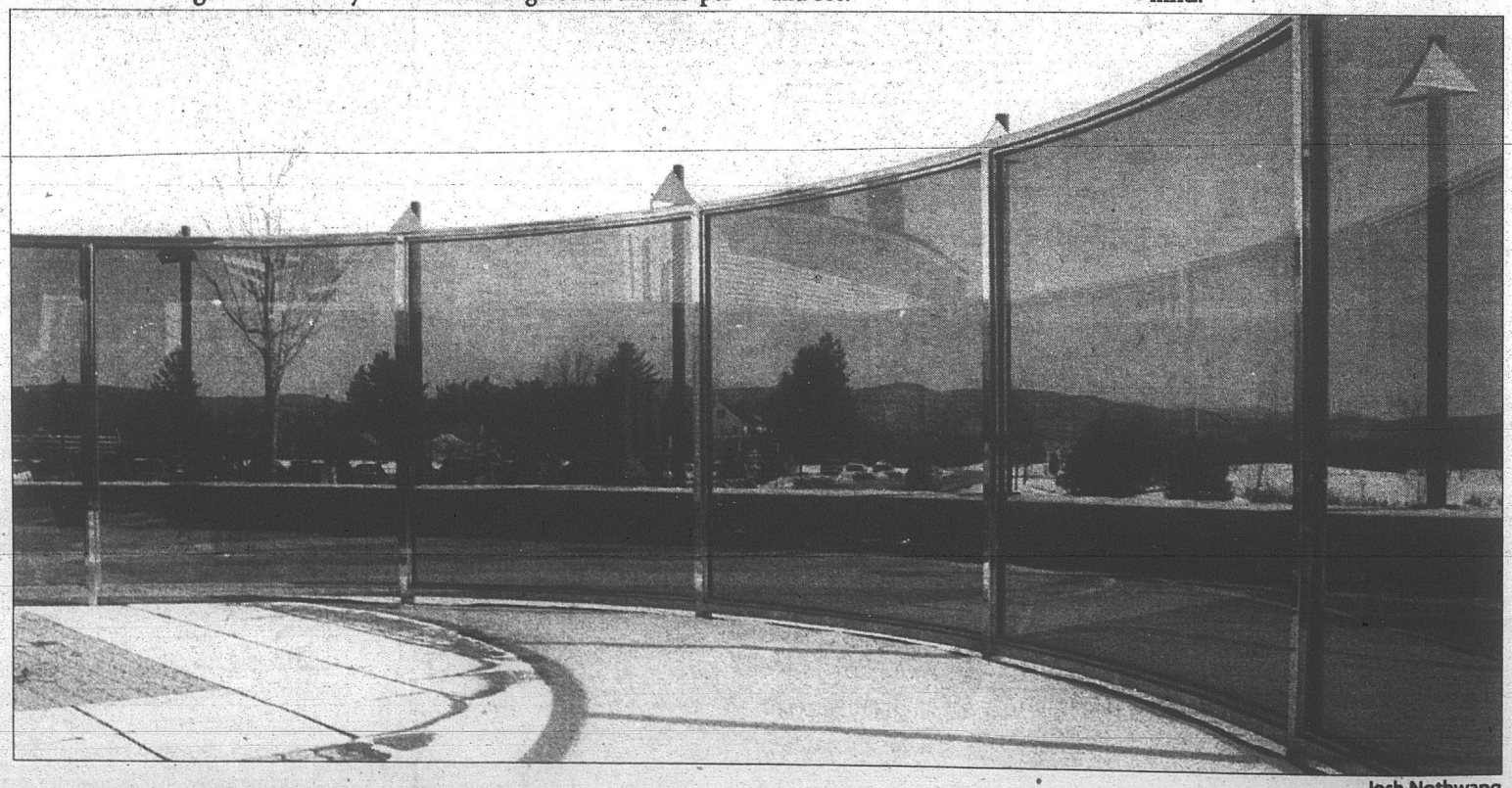
As you step inside the CFA, stand in the center of Rehearsals Café and look directly up, you will discover a man flying over your head. This man, made of acrylic and urethane foam is titled "I Dreamed I could Fly at 3,876,225." It is the work of Jonathan Borofsky who is known for making all his images self-portraits and using titles with large quantities that are beyond comprehension. It was a gift of the Overbrook Foundation as well and adds a lively aspect to the spacious interior of the building.

Just down the road, inside the new Kenyon Arena sits a smaller replica of the impressive "Middlebury Panther" created by Lorenzo Giglieri that has a home by the football field. It was given to the college in 1999 by the family of Robert "Bobo" Sheehan '44, who coached at the college from 1946 to 1967. It sits intimidatingly at the entrance to the ice hockey arena, representing the fierce competitiveness of Middlebury in its rendering of our mascot, the panther, just as the larger one intimidates football fans.

Finally we have the future of sculpture at Middlebury College: "Smog," which will welcome visitors to our newly christened Bicentennial Hall. "Smog" was created by Tony Smith and was chosen by the Committee on Art in Public Places, along with the help of their art consultant Nancy Rosen of New York City, who was previously in charge of the art program for the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. and the World Financial Center in New York City. In preparation for the sculpture's arrival, a pattern of blue stones designed by Assistant Professor of Architecture Parker Croft has been laid with 22 piers where the sculpture will be bolted down.

History of Art and Architecture Professor John Hunisak explained that "Smog" will be the first piece of art purchased after the Board of Trustees has agreed on the one-percent for art policy. This policy promises that one percent of whatever the cost of a new building erected on campus is, will be offered for the acquisition of a new piece of art for the College. Hunisak commented, "It is a very foresighted idea for the Board of Trustees to have made this decision and we can imagine that interest in art by the College will make patrons more willing to give art themselves." The Committee on Art and Public Places will oversee the continuation of the one-percent policy.

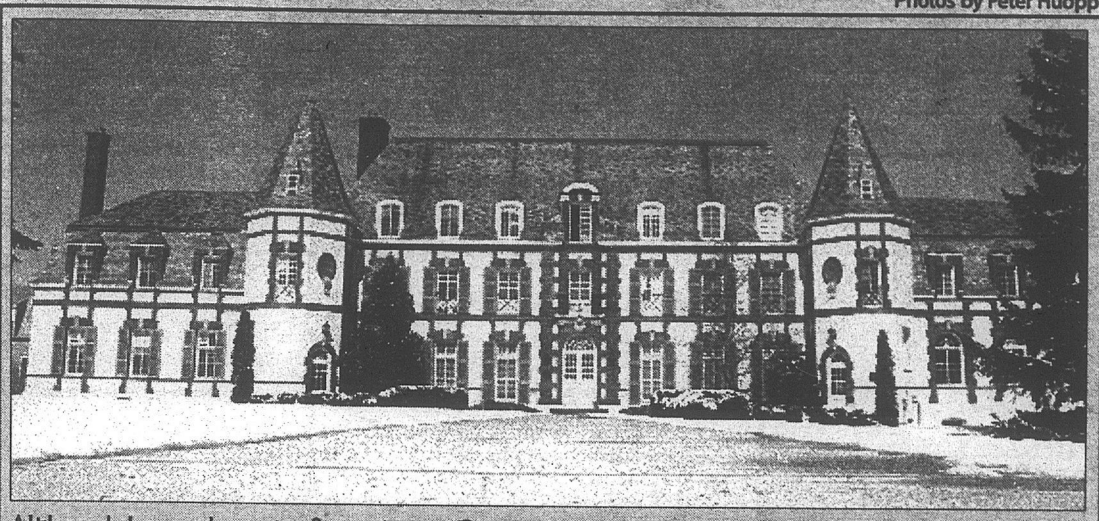
Hunisak stated that his favorite sculpture on campus "will be the Smith piece because it's the most impressive." We'll just have to wait and see.



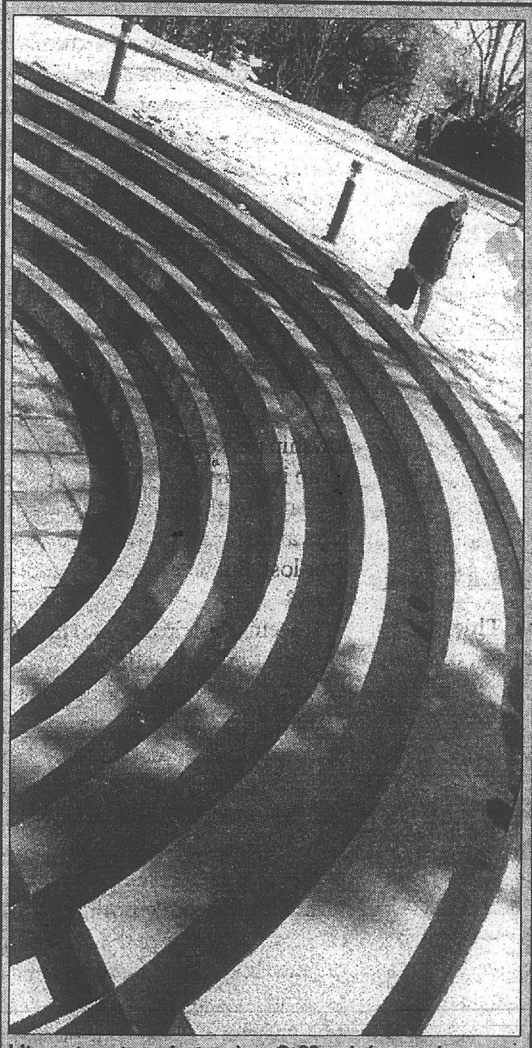
Josh Nothwang
The patio behind CFA is home to an interactive sculpture combining two-way mirrors and zig-zag hedges created by American sculptor Dan Graham.

What is your favorite building on Middlebury's campus?

Photos by Peter Huoppi



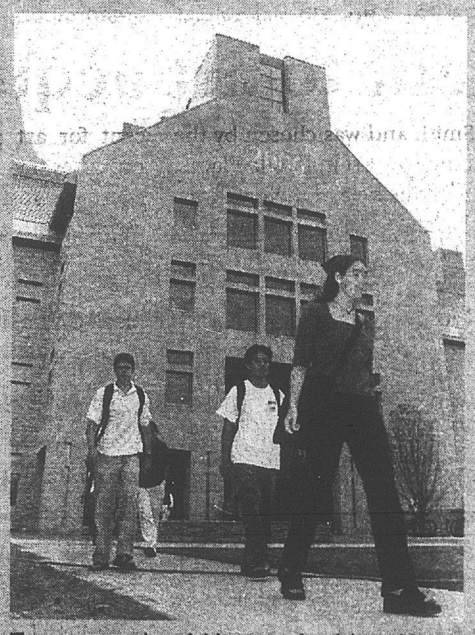
Although I spend most of my time in Bicentennial Hall, the Chateau (above) is my favorite building on campus. When I look at it, I can imagine I'm in the Loire Valley, far from the hassles of Middlebury life.
–Anne DeWitt, In-Depth Editor



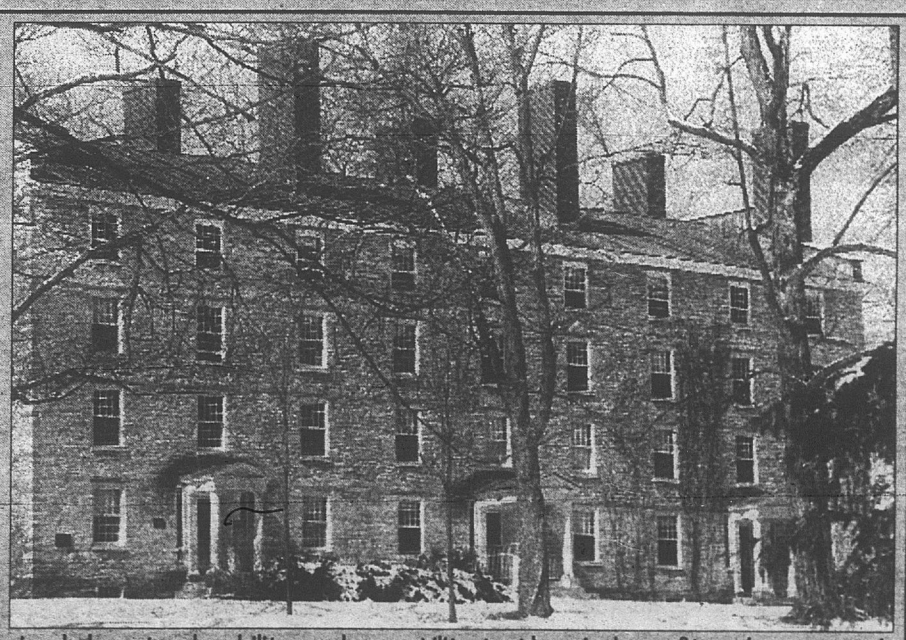
I live vicariously in the Gifford Ampitheater (above), which has enough sunshine and concrete for me to pretend I'm in Los Angeles. It's where I make up for not having gone to school in California.
–Bethany Mabee '02.

Pearsons. It's got character. It's consistent with the rest of the architecture on campus, and it represents Middlebury's style.
–Agata Andrevski '02

The Center for the Arts sends a lot of good messages about post-modern architecture.
–Glenn Andres, professor of History of Art and Architecture.



Everyone should have a building like Bicentennial Hall.
–Sunhee Choi, professor of chemistry.



Painter Hall (right), because it is the oldest college building in continuous use in the state of Vermont, more than 180 years, and has been almost everything–offices, classroom, library, gymnasium, residence hall–thus attesting in its simple beauty, durability and versatility to the wisdom of its planners and the many valuable aspects of a residential liberal arts education.
–President John McCardell.

Science program thrives in Bicentennial Hall

(continued from page 17)

have had the nightmare of having to keep a program in operation while at the same time doing construction all around us." Ultimately, it was the decision to increase the student body that made starting over possible. A larger number of students requires an increase in academic space, and the college decided to let a new science building be that increase.

Design for Bicentennial Hall began in 1992. "The entire planning process for the building was driven by the academic program," said Larrabee. To facilitate communication between the faculty and the architects, the college appointed Randy Landgren—then a professor of biology and now Director of Space Management—to, as he puts it, "participate in every conversation that took place in the planning of BiHall and to blow a whistle when I thought the two people weren't understanding each other." In so doing, the Administration hoped to avoid some of the problems that had occurred with the Center for the Arts, which they saw as a direct result of miscommunication between professors and architects.

Not that everything went smoothly during the construction of Bicentennial Hall. "Initially, the administration asked us to plan a building that wouldn't need to be changed at all for 25 years. That' s a pretty impossible task," says Landgren.

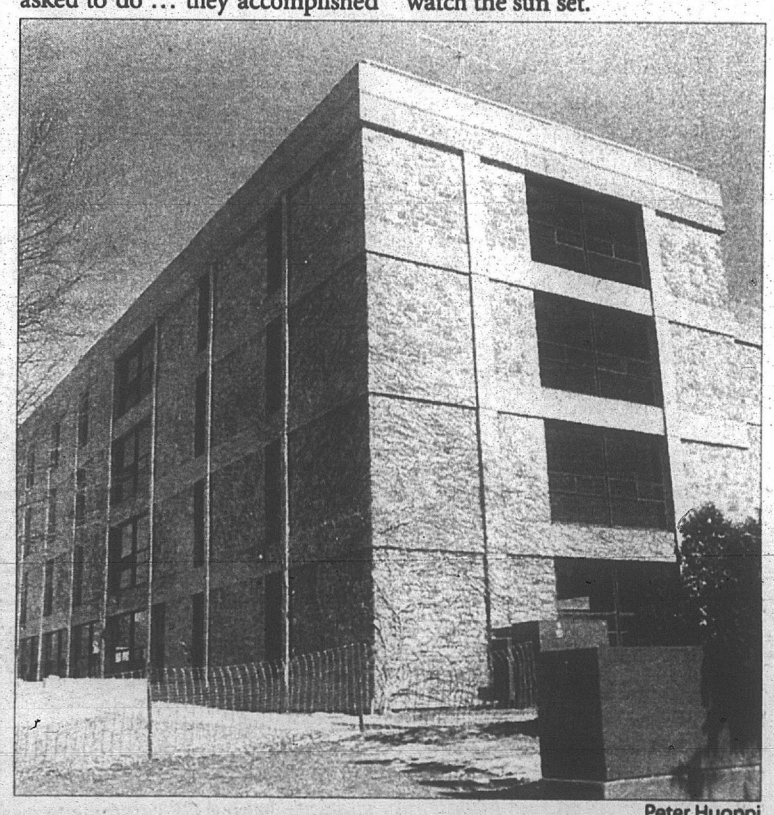
They managed to modify these demands, but there was still the problem of deciding where to put it. A total of 11 locations were considered before the current one was chosen, but the selection of the present site incurred a certain degree of controversy among trustees who held fond memories of watching sunsets over the Adirondacks from benches on the hillside. "There was a big challenge to the architects to accommodate the needs of the teaching that had to go on, but also to accommodate some aesthetic requirements and some emotional requirements," says Landgren.

He concludes, however, that "everything that the architects were asked to do … they accomplished very well." Larrabee readily ticks off a list of what works in Bicentennial Hall, from the building's many environmentally friendly qualities (the use of local, sustainably-harvested wood "essentially created the [green wood] industry in Vermont"), to the flexibility integrated into the design in the form of easily movable walls and accessible utilities. "It does a lot of things in a very beautiful way—it's functional, it was cost-effective, it's attractive," he says. "Students are happy to be here."

Winkler agrees. "Walking into the old science building was kind of like walking into the Manhattan subways. It was depressing," he recalls. While entering Bicentennial may not always be a pleasure (who really wants to take a physical chemistry midterm?), it is always less painful then crossing the threshold of the old Science Center. The number of students who read in the oversize red and blue chairs, do their problem sets in a group study area, or write their newspaper articles in a Generic Classroom Laboratory attest to this fact. This attribute was a goal of the building's designers, says Landgren. "It was supposed to be a destination point that people would come to because of it being there, rather than because they had to do something there," he says.

Bicentennial Hall's fame extends well beyond the Middlebury campus. Research and Development Magazine just awarded it the Lab Design of the Year award, an extremely prestigious honor that has never before been given to a college buiding.

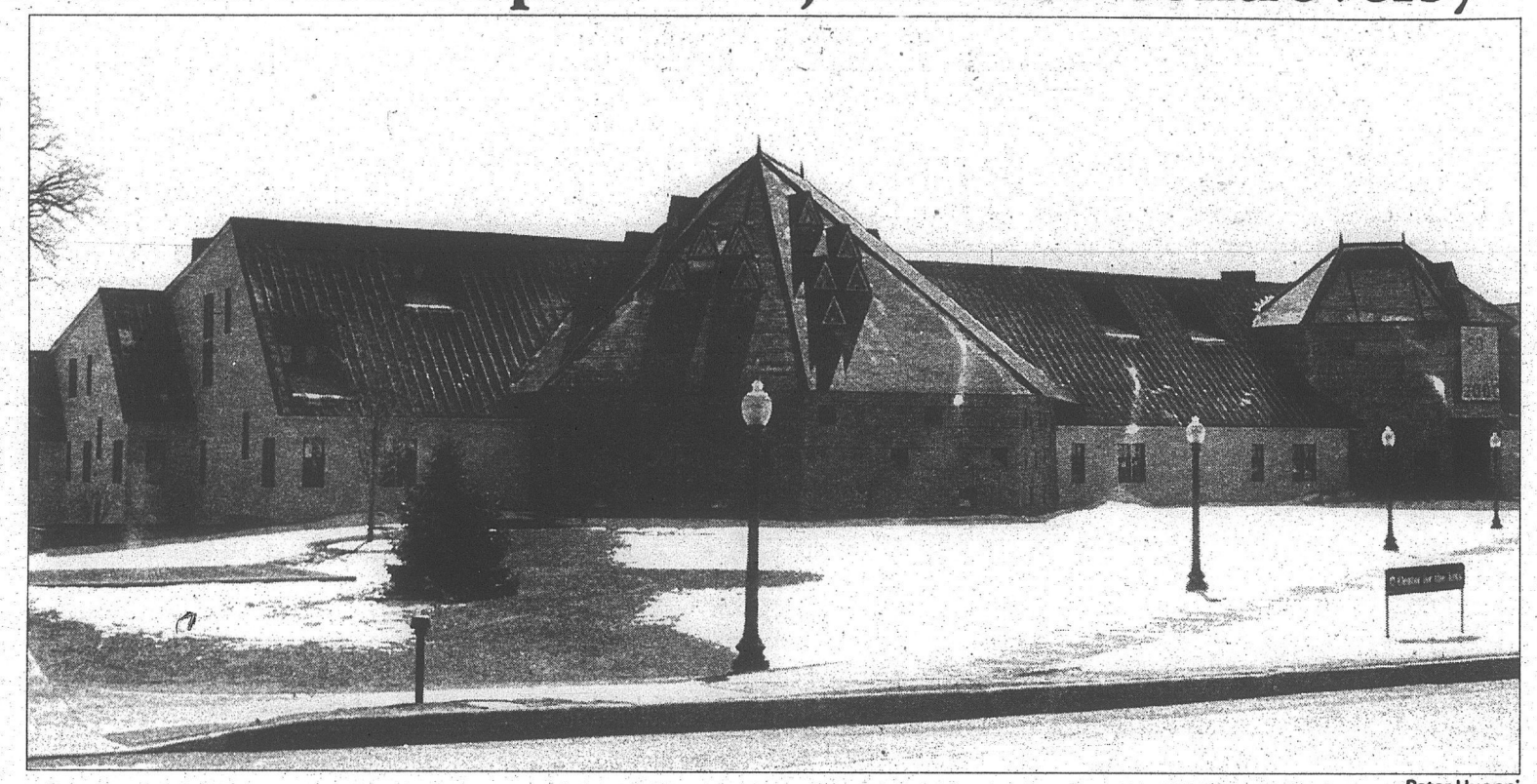
As for me, I need only to recollect my month of being shut up in the barracks of the old Science Center to feel a rush of gratitude for Bicentennial Hall. It is a relief to remember that being a chemistry major no longer requires sunlight deprivation, months of concrete inhalation or the Spartan fortitude necessary to endure a summer of thesis research in a hot, stuffy building. I may spend the next couple years shut up in a lab with my test tubes and magnetic stir plates, but at least I'll be able to watch the sun set.



Peter Huoppi
The Science Center's stark concrete edges exemplify architectural brutalism.

The Center for the Arts inspires love, hate and controversy

By Anne DeWitt
In Depth Editor



Peter Huoppi

The architects designed the octagonal towers of the Center for the Arts–originally intended to stand behind Johnson–to imitate the peaks of the Chateau roof.

I first saw the Center for the Arts on a rainy day in June. It was the summer before my senior year in high school, and I was taking the usual East Coast liberal arts school tour. I was overawed by Middlebury's beauty: the expanse of green lawn, the stately gray buildings, the mountains that encircled the campus. The Center for the Arts, with the high-ceilinged dance studios, profusion of octagons and wooden paneled concert hall, only served to complete the impression.

"We bought a work of art for Middlebury and, after all, if you're building a center for the arts, that's something you want to do," remarks architecture professor Glenn Andres. He adds, however, that not everyone shares my feeling about the structure. "People are so polarized about that building," he comments. This effect was exactly what the architects, Hardy, Holtzman, Pfeiffer and Associates, intended. "They wanted it to be challenging; they wanted it to be something that you couldn't just accept. …They wanted it to pose questions and problems for you."

As part of this challenge, the architects incoporated many arresting shapes into the building. In "Hardy Holtzman Pfeiffer Associates: Products and Designs," a book that details many of the firm's creations, Andres writes, "The component parts are designed to be clearly readable once one has become acquainted with the building."

I think it's always going to be a controversial building on campus, and I think Hardy Holtzman would say that its controversy is one of its best points.

—Glenn Andres

The firm's credits range from the Wellesley College Sports Center, to the renovation of the Rainbow Room and Rockerfeller Center Club, to the refurbishing of the Madison Civic Center. They also designed the addition to McCullough Gymnasium. Of their contributions to Middlebury College, Andres writes: they "steer a difficult design course between a respect for tradition and a strong individuality. Like many of Middlebury's older stone buildings, which are modeled after New England mill structures, they have spare, geometric forms and steeply pitched roofs, and are set in the open landscape." He goes on to point out that "the exterior's low profile, peaking at 50 feet above the music hall, echoes the gentle, verdant mountain landscape."

Plans for the new Center for the Arts began in the mid '80s. In the initial stages of design, the thought was to build a structure that would connect Johnson and Wright Theater, and thus provide a space that would accommodate all of the art departments on campus: Theater, Film/Video and Dance, Music, Studio Art and Art History. "The idea was to have an umbrella building that would incorporate all of the arts."

For two years, the various art faculty worked to design a program specifying their needs and desires. When the architects began working with these plans and producing designs and scale models, they realized that the space behind Johnson and Wright would simply not suffice, and that building the addition would cause all sorts of problems with public access and parking.

At that point, the Administration, the architects and the Board of Trustees decided to move the location to Route 30, between the Emma Willard House and Porter Field Road. This site soon began to pose its own set of problems. "The neighbors in Chipman park and behind there didn't want such a big building near them, and they threatened to sue the college on the basis that the building would block their sunsets," says Andres.

Rather than deal with the hassle and expense of a lawsuit, the college decided to move the building down the road, next to the athletic complex. In this process, the building was flipped horizontally, so that the structure that currently stands is a mirror image of the original design.

The construction process was not entirely perfect. After the faculty had given their input by developing the program, direct communication between they and the architects ceased. "The architects would talk only with the central administration, and they would ask us questions if there were questions. But basically, a lot of the consultation got cut off," says Andres. There were other issues as well. "Both the music and theater departments were in transition, there were major staff changes going on, and the new people coming in had different ideas about how the departments would work, but, of course, the faculty design had been designed for the ideas of the older personel."

In essence, the length of time it took for the CFA's construction—the building was completed in 1991—caused some dissatisfaction with it. "It took so long in the process … that peoples ideas of what they needed changed," comments Andres.

He adds that the determination characteristic of Hardy, Holtzman, Pfeiffer and Associates also had an impact. "In many ways, they reshaped the college program according to ideas that they had. …If people complained, basically they said, 'Well, we've had a lot of experience with this; we know better.'" As an example, Andres sites the black box theater (officially known as the Studio Theater). The Theater Department wanted a rectangle; the architects demanded an irregular pentagon, insisting that such a shape would force the department to explore different orientation options for their productions.

We bought a work of art for Middlebury, and, after all, if you're building a center for the arts, that's something you want to do.

—Glenn Andres

Program changes caused problems as well. The architects intended the central lobby, with its multiple levels, its many entrances and numerous staircases, to resemble a subway station. The 15 minute passing times between classes would then resemble rush hour in Manhattan, as students with backpacks replaced commuters with briefcases. But eliminating Studio Art and Art History diminished the number of students taking class in the building, and hence "you don't have the critical mass of people using the building and making it lively the way it was intended to be."

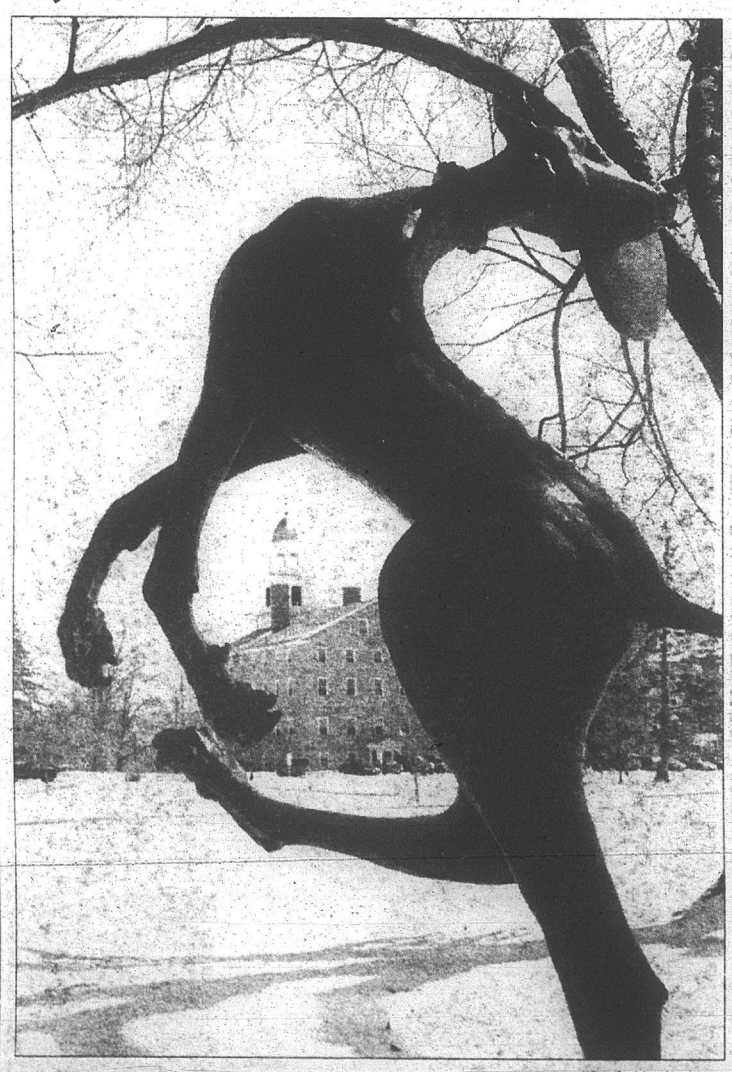
In addition to these conceptual difficulties, the physical construction of the building posed certain challenges. Andres explains, "It's a very complicated building, and, in fact, many of the intersections of forms and structures and surfaces and so forth could only be figured out on computers. And with something that complicated, it's very hard for a conventional construction company to figure out what in the world this all means." This led to problems with the roof, which leaks, and the dance floor, which was not properly sprung and had to be replaced. Furthermore, the skylights in the Museum tend to collect condensation during certain months of the year, and sound leakage between the Concert Hall and the rehearsal rooms means that the two spaces cannot be used simultaneously.

Despite these issues, "I think it came out remarkably well. …It certainly has been wonderful for the arts, because it has given them high profile, and it's given them some fabulous spaces," Andres asserts. He comments on the reaction of visitors, who often call the CFA "the most urbane building in the state of Vermont." He points to the success of the 300-seat Studio Theater, "The black box theater has just worked remarkably well. As soon as it opened, almost all of the theatrical productions moved over there—the only problem being that everything's a sellout, and it's a small space." He also remarks on the 400-seat Concert Hall which was, at the time, the second surround concert hall in the country, calling it a "real breakthrough kind of space."

The exact future of the building is not entirely certain; already the Theater and Music departments have found themselves in need of additional space. One thing, however, seems certain: as long as it stands beside Route 30, the Center for the Arts will continue to provoke polarized reactions.

Some will love it, some may despise, but everyone will think about it. As Andres puts it, "I think its always going to be a controversial building on campus, and I think Hardy Holtzman would say that its controversy is one of its best points."

Play Catch



Josh Nothwang

Eternally leaping on the lawn in front of Munroe, *the Frisbee Dog is part of a legend that Middlebury students created the game*

Water polo competes in tournament, secures future as club sport

By Andrew Hickok
Staff Writer

Thanks to a group of avid Californian students and a generous parent donor, the Middlebury water polo club team competed in its first season as an organized, coached and funded program. Though Middlebury has sent teams of swimmers in years past to water polo tournaments, never before has there existed such a high level of participation and enthusiasm for the sport. With more than half of the team's members being newcomers to the sport since the fall, water polo is one of the college's fastest growing sports, not to mention that it is the fastest growing women's intercollegiate sport in the country.

...Water polo is one of the college's fastest growing sports, not to mention that it is the fastest growing sport in the country.

For those unfamiliar with water polo, a rather obscure sport in the ski and dairy country of Vermont, let me provide you with a crash course in the game. Blending elements of lacrosse, basketball, and soccer, collegiate water polo is played on a rectangular playing field in the deep end of a swimming pool. Seven players compete on a team, including a goaltender. A water polo ball is approximately the size of a volleyball, (slightly smaller for the women's game) but it is heavier, and can be thrown very hard. As each team tries to score in their opponent's goal, the field players cannot submerge the ball under the water or handle it with two hands at once.

Though the quarters in a water polo game are short at only seven minutes, water polo ranks right up there with cross-country skiing as one of the most physically grueling sports. As if the swimming and "egg-beatering" were not taxing enough, water polo players are some of sports' most notoriously unsportsman-like defenders. Despite close officiating, quite a bit of leg yanking and swimsuit grabbing inevitably takes place in every game. Of course Middlebury never uses these cheap tactics.

Middlebury competed surprisingly well in three tournaments this fall, given the team members' lack of playing experience. Team founders Peter Lee '01.5, Andrew Boyce '02, and Brook Rea '02 (since transferred), all native Californians, began to promote the sport last year, gathering enough student interest to receive funding. The school then hired a qualified coach in Brian Goodwin, a Canadian with impressive water polo playing and coaching credentials. In the first week of the fall semester a coed group of about 30 players began to practice.

Though the team struggled in its first few tournament games following just five days of practice, the Panthers' team improved to play many competitive matches over the rest of the season. By the third and final tournament, the top teams in the league, Dartmouth and Williams, were forced to take Middlebury seriously. Middlebury finished the fall campaign at 4-10, notching victories over Coast Guard and Trinity.

The continued amount of interest in the sport has allowed Middlebury to field a women's club team which competed in a tournament at Connecticut College last weekend. The team narrowly lost its first game on Saturday 10-9 to Bates, before dropping matches to Connecticut College (17-8) and Wellesley (17-5) later in the day.

On Sunday the rookie Panthers' squad met up against Harvard, which has one of the top club programs in the nation. Of the mismatched contest, team member Brooke Hayes '02 positively puts it: "It was a good learning experience." The women's team now turns its attention to the upcoming league tournament later this spring.

Hoping to build off the success of last season, the men's water polo team will be welcoming at least one new experienced first-year player next fall. Much to the happiness of Peter Lee '02, the chances look good that the Middlebury water polo program is here to stay. "I no longer have to be the keeper of the torch," he says. "It's now in the hands of the younger guys." Since it is a club sport still in its infant stages, the water polo team openly invites any and all students interested to come down for a practice. As many newcomers learned this year, you do not need to have beautiful swimming technique, but be prepared to play a contact sport.

Calfee caps career with national runner-up title

By Shannon Egan
Staff Writer

For senior swimmer and tri-captain Jane Calfee '00, the season could not have ended on a better note. This past weekend, she traveled to the women's NCAA championships hosted by Emory University in Atlanta. As the sole member of the women's team to qualify for the national meet, Calfee represented Middlebury with much pride and enthusiasm. The championships marked the end of an illustrious swimming career.

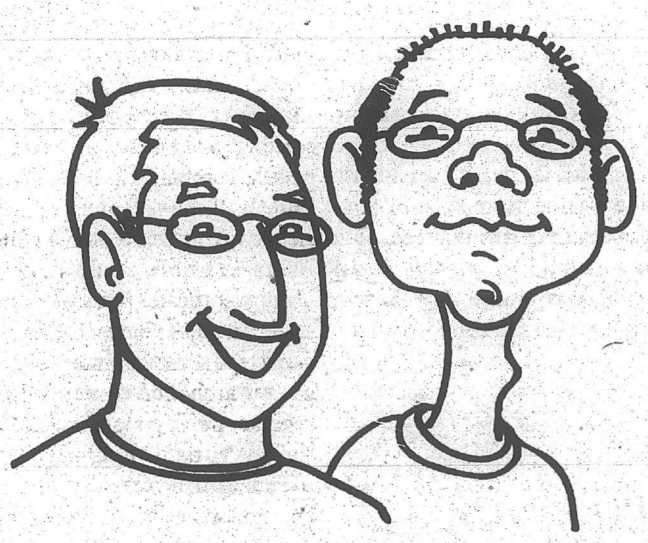
Calfee is a four-time national qualifier and four-time All-American. She holds the team and pool records in the 50, 100, and 200-yard backstroke, as well as the 200 and 400 relays.

On her first day of competition, Calfee swam the 100-yard butterfly in a time of 1:00.89, finishing 21st overall. Later that morning, she swam the 100 backstroke, and qualified for the championship finals of the event. Her final time of 58.89 gave her a seventh place finish in a very close race.

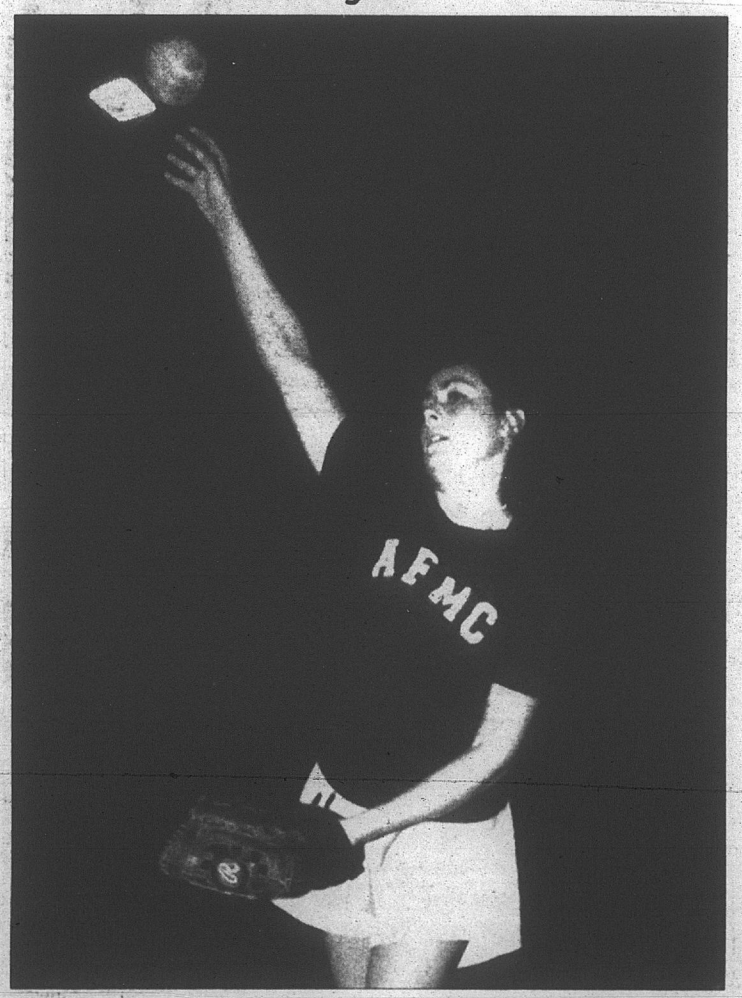
The highlight of her weekend, and indeed her season, was seen in the 200 backstroke. In the morning, she qualified seventh with a time of 2:06.88. In what Coach Peter Solomon called "a storybook ending to a senior's career," Calfee swam the race again in finals, finishing second in 2:05.28, and defeating the defending champion in the event. "She swam a very smart and strong race," Solomon remarked. "In the last 50 yards she managed to pass five people without a problem." Her time marked a new Middlebury varsity record. The winner of the event was a freshman from UC San Diego, who won three events and was voted swimmer of the meet.

Calfee is a four-time national qualifier and four-time All-American. She holds the team and pool records in the 50, 100 and 200-yard backstroke, as well as the 200 and 400 medley relays.

Solomon was very pleased with the results of the weekend, and is looking forward to returning to sunny Atlanta for the men's NCAA championships, which begin Thursday. Seven men have qualified for the meet, and he anticipates "another weekend of fast swimming."

Welcome Back Students!
Come check out Darren the magician on Wednesday nights from 7-9PM
Neil & Otto's
pizza

Remember, we are your late-nite hookup, we deliver until 1AM Sunday - Thursday, and 2AM on Friday and Saturday!
388-6774/388-6776
52 Merchants Row

Take me out to the ballgame



Andrew Corrigan

Warming up her throwing arm, *Alison Branch '02.5 prepares for an indoor practice session with the womens softball team.*

Five panthers run to All-American titles

By Sarah Alliman
Staff Writer

After months of grueling preparation, six Middlebury indoor track athletes competed at the NCAA championship at Illinois Wesleyan. Middlebury brought back one national champion and five All-Americans.

In the men's competition, Ethan Barron '01 was Middlebury's sole competitor. He was seeded with a time of 7.65 seconds in the 55-meter hurdles. Unfortunately, however, his trial time of 7.81 seconds wasn't enough to make the finals. Coach Martin Beatty said, "He could easily have made the finals, but he was sloppy over the first hurdle. The race is so short that it's over in no time. It's very hard to recover from that sort of error." Barron said, "I didn't run well; there's no excuse. C'est la vie." Beatty has been very pleased with Barron's season.

"He [Ethan Barron '01] could easily have made the finals, but he was sloppy over the first hurdle. The race is so short thatit's over in no time. It's very hard to recover from that sort of error." -Coach Martin Beatty

Last year, Barron was New England champion; this year, he was New England champion and competed in the NCAAs. Beatty says that he has more endurance in races than quickness out of the blocks, so he "should fare better in the 110 meter hurdles."

Michela Adrian '03 competed in her first NCAA track championship, although she is not new to these intense competitions, having run in the NCAA cross-country championship. Her 1500 meter trial time of 4:43 placed her in good standing for the finals where she came in ninth. She said, "I was really nervous at trials. I had heard that some runners played games and go slow so that you have to sprint to the end to qualify for trials." Beatty said, "She has a lot of poise for a first-year."

Kate Irvin '01 finished a stunning seventh in the 1500-meter run, with a final time of 4:40, dropping two seconds from her trial time. She was disappointed, however, with her finish, saying, "It was my third race and it was a really tough race. Usually [the runners] spread out more, but this time, the pack stuck together and brought the pace down." In order to keep up her pace, Irvin had to run in lane three and felt like she "used up a lot of energy maneuvering." She was out-kicked in the last few meters and finished just out of All-American placing. Beatty, however, was pleased, saying that she did impressively well, even though "she missed some races at the beginning of the winter. Just missing a few races makes a big difference. But she'll be sharp and ready for outdoor."

Although Irvin didn't make All-American status in the 1500, she and her Distance Medley Relay teammates finished in fifth place, earning All-American status with a time of 12:01, and shaving an impressive seven seconds off their previous time. Irvin ran the 1200-meter leg, Michelle Young '00 the 400, Annah Heitkamp '00 the 800, and Adrian anchored with the 1600. According to Heitkamp, the race was very close, noting that "the first five teams all ran 11:59 to 12:01."

Although Irvin didn't make All-American status,... she and her Distance Medley Relay teammates finished in fifth place, earning All-American status with a time of 12:01, and shaving an impressive seven seconds off their previous time.

Beatty summed up the race, saying, "Kate had a nice leg; she got us established, got us right into the thick of things. When Michelle got the baton, she wasn't pressed at all: she was relaxed the whole time. No one was near her. Annah kept us right with them. She ran comfortably, with even splits. Michela took off with everyone else and ran fast. She ran a smart race."

Adrian, however, was a little worried about her leg of the race. When she grabbed the baton, the competition "all clumped together. I knew there were two girls behind me who were faster than me and I was really worried about not placing in the top six. But it ended up okay."

Despite having ran trials in the 1500 only hours before, Irvin and Adrian both raced well. According to Irvin, Adrian "fought hard for fifth. When she kicked, there were six or seven teams all within three seconds. It was a tough finish, but she stuck in there and fought." Young compared the two to "machines. [Running a race earlier] didn't phase them at all. It was like their warm-up. Maybe it even improved their races." Barron was a huge supporter of the women, saying, "I was definitely psyched for the girls. They kicked ass. So I have bragging rights. I can associate myself with the girls since the guys didn't do so hot." Teammate Kristy Laramee '01 said, "It was awesome to watch the DMR. They are so strong."

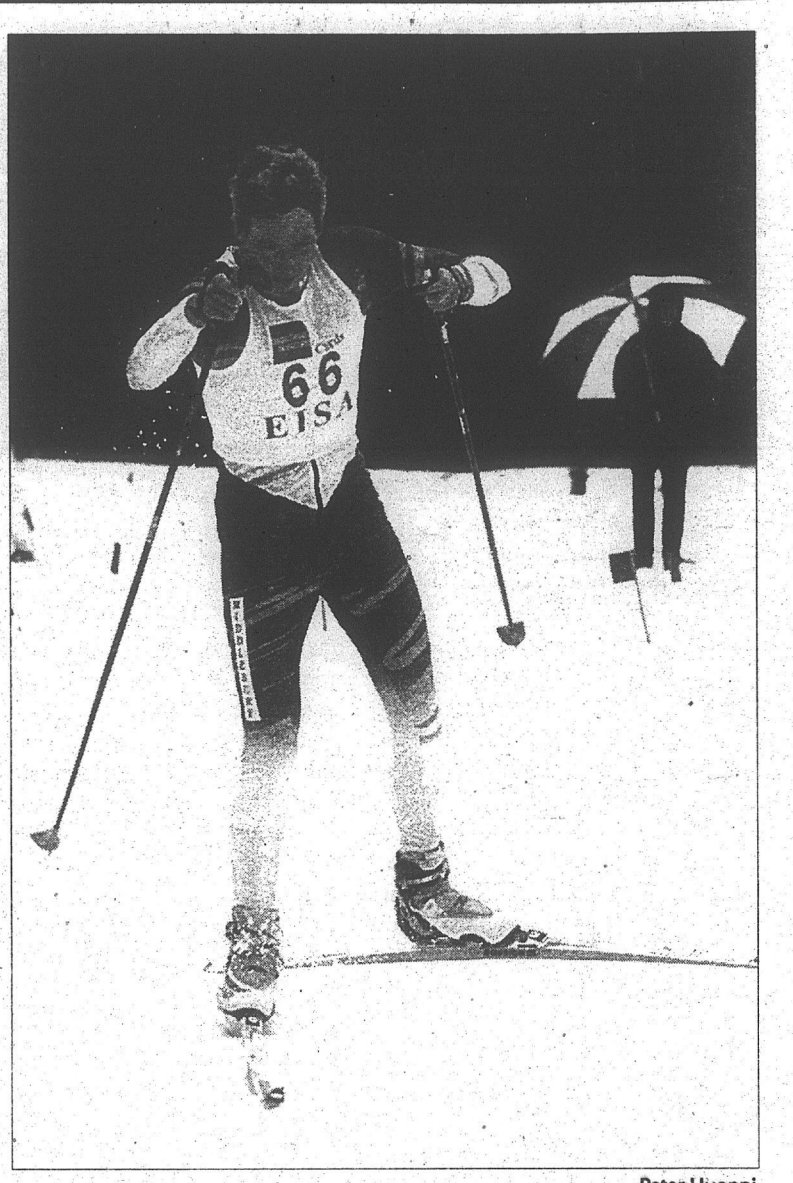
Laramee gave Middlebury cause for excitement, clearing 5'10.75" in the high jump to win the national championship. Rival Beth Constagno from Wheaton jumped the same height, but cleared the bar on her second attempt while Laramee cleared it on her first, giving her the decision. According to Beatty, Constagno had entered the championship ranked first, so "it was great for Kristy to beat her." Laramee said, "I had hoped to beat her. That was the plan! She is always great competition." Teammate Adrian said, "Kristy dominates! She is so above everyone else. She came in [to the competition] when everyone else was done. It's so much fun just to watch her. She just flies." Amazingly, Laramee even attempted to clear the Olympic trial height of 6'1". Adrian said, "She was so close to getting it; her feet just kept hitting it." Laramee said, "I had two decent attempts at it. I'm hoping that'll come in outdoor."

Outdoor track season starts in two weekends with the team's first competition taking place in San Diego, California, over spring break. The indoor track athletes will doubtlessly continue their success into the next season.

Leader of the pack

Andrew Corrigan

Leading the women's lacrosse team in a running drill, *Ali Connolly '02 sprints for the finish in one of the women's first practices on the new artificial turf field behind the fitness center.*



Peter Huoppi

Eli Enman '00 finished 9th in the 20k classic at the NCAA Championships.

Nordic team battles wet snow, altitude at NCAAs

By Justin Beckwith
Staff Writer

The Nordic ski team completed the 2000 ski season on the snow and mud covered hills of Soldier Hollow, Utah. The challenging courses will be the site of the 2002 Olympic Nordic competition. Despite having to contend with high altitude and inconsistent snow conditions, the Nordics achieved some impressive results.

The best performance for Middlebury was Eli Enman's '00 ninth place finish in the 20-kilometer classic race. This placing earned Enman All-American status and served as a fitting final accomplishment for his successful collegiate skiing career. On the women's team, Anna Kulmatiski '00 finished her final season with an impressive 12th place finish in the five-kilometer freestyle race, only six seconds from All-American status. The combined performance of the Nordic and Alpine teams earned them a sixth place team finish, the highest of any non-university and non-scholarship team.

The first race of the week was the women's five-kilometer freestyle race. The night before the race several inches of wet snow fell, making the hilly course especially challenging. Anna Kulmatiski skied in top form and claimed 12th place, seconds from the top ten, and the first eastern skier across the line. Hilary Patzer '02 charged through the two-lap race with a time of 19:06, only five seconds behind Kulmatiski. Megan Sands '02 battled to a 34th place finish.

After the women's race, the men took to the hills for the 10-kilometer freestyle event. The Middlebury men were troubled by the slow conditions and high altitude. Eli Enman was the team's first finisher in 23rd place. Will Rawstron '00 turned in a 25th place finish in his final collegiate race. Justin Beckwith '01 blew up on the third lap to finish a disappointing 34th place.

With their sight set on redemption, the Middlebury men rested for two days before the 20-kilometer classic event. The mass start race consisted of five laps of a 3.8 kilometer loop. To succeed, racers had to pick a pace that they could maintain for nearly an hour. Enman and Beckwith recognized the difficulty of the race, and started at a moderate pace.

After the first few laps both skiers sat in the twenties, far off the placing they hoped to obtain. But, as the race wore on, both skiers picked up the pace and cruised past skiers who had started too hard. Enman earned his first All-American title with a ninth place finish in a time of 47:42.

Forty-one seconds after Enman crossed the line, Justin Beckwith sprinted away from a Colorado University skier to claim 14th. Will Rawstron was unable to race because of a stomach ailment.

With hopes of bettering their freestyle performances the Middlebury women charged out of the gate in the 15-kilometer classic race. However, drained by the effects of high altitude, the women fell short of their goals.

Kulmatiski's time of 51:59 was good enough for 26th place. Patzer skied on Kulmatiski's heels for the majority of the race and ended the day one spot behind her in 27th. Sands finished the grueling race in a time of 52:31 in 30th place.

Middlebury Pranksters primed for tournament in Georgia

By Ben Dow
Sports Editor

The Middlebury Ultimate Pranksters, clad in self-assembled uniforms as well as flashy, made-to-order ultimate skirts, will soon make their way south for the start of their much-heralded spring season. The culmination of many weekend practices in Fletcher Field House will occur at Terminus, a spring break ultimate frisbee tournament in Savannah, Georgia.

Both the men's and women's teams are looking at very promising spring seasons, coming off of fall 1999 with success in New England sectionals. The men, ending sectionals with an above-par record, went on to regionals and were beaten. The teams were united at Dartmouth's Frozen Disc, the last tournament of the year, where they proceeded to stomp the competition. This veritable coed nightmare then rubbed it in by blaring Marvin Gaye from an SUV that they had parked on the field.

I would like to give you, the reader, a profile of the players who will make this season a most memorable one for both the men's and women's squads. When mentioning the Lady Pranksters, it is necessary to mention their two captains, Morley McBride '02 and Sam Dabney '02.5. Both of these ladies can handle the disc so well it's like having two Mateen Cleaves on your team. In the pressure situations they both just flat out perform. Jen Bloomer is another sophomore with solid game. Her cuts in the end zone get her open and there are plenty of players capable of getting her the goods. Daniela Salaverry '03 has brought defensive tools galore; swatting down passes that shorter players have a tough time getting to.

Seth Wolcott-MacCausland is akin to the crazy old relative that some people have in their basements: you don't know how old he is or how long he's been there, but he's definitely there.

Speaking of shorter players, Maria Young '02 is one such Prankster who uses this trait to her advantage. Oftentimes lost by opposing teams, she has sure hands to haul in the open pass and the quickness to defend throws that adversaries believe to be open. Many Feb women are joining the ranks, hoping to make this stacked team even more feared.

The men's team possesses a bit more experience, led by notable seniors Orin Moore, Seth Wolcott-MacCausland, and Isaac Ro. As a tribute to their brilliant careers at the dawn of their final season, The Campus sports section would like to take this opportunity to give them the credit they deserve.

Orin is a captain who did not pick up the game at Middlebury until his sophomore year. Since then he has been unstoppable, becoming an expert in every aspect of the game. He has excellent one-on-one, off the disc defense, an impressive vertical on the huck (long throw) defenses, and a patient, West Coast approach to offense. His rational play should not be mistaken for passive play: he is possibly the most competitive player on the field at any given time. His expertise as a handler has definitely helped the Pranksters to their share of wins. Seth Wolcott-MacCausland is akin to the crazy old relative that some people have in their basements: you don't know how old he is or how long he's been there, but he's definitely there. Seth is a club sport's equivalent to a fifth –year senior, and his experience definitely shows. He is a master of the fine points such as where to defend a cut, how to sell a fake, and how to lull your opponent into thinking it's safe to let his guard down.

It's a rare thing in sports when the grizzled veteran still sets the standard for hustle and all-out play. But then again, this is a rare team, so Seth is allowed to do that. After a strict training regimen of skiing in the Tetons during J-term, Seth is ready to put his impeccable quadriceps to use on the frisbee field.

Last but not least is the venerable Isaac Ro, who spent most of the fall season sidelined with a shoulder injury. Luckily, his party skills we not hindered. He passed the time by nagging other players to pay their team dues and coaching the "B" team through some embarrassing losses. Now he's back, displaying the uncanny abilities to both throw ambidextrously and wear a Raid hat with pride.

All in all, both teams are poised to dominate the ultimate scene: the women using unbreakable team play and the men using that delicate balance of youth and experience.

Women's hockey prepare for Augsburg

By Margaret Aycock & Mike Hartt
Staff Writers

Following their fifth consecutive ECAC Division III title, the Middlebury women's hockey team has set their sights on something greater.

For the first time ever, there will be a Division III National Championship, sponsored by the American Women's College Hockey Alliance, held at Northeastern University in Boston over spring break on March 24-25. The Panthers will take to the ice to defend the number-one national ranking they have held all season, in a battle against number two Augsburg College, of Minneapolis, MN.

Augsburg comes into the two-game series having won the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament, giving the Auggies a berth in the National Championships. Augsburg swept Gustavus 4-1 and 2-1 to earn their place against Middlebury, which won the ECAC title a week earlier. The Auggies are led in scoring by the MIAC Player of the Year, Angie Rieger, who tallied 22 goals and 22 assists on the season.

According to Middlebury head coach Bill Mandigo, "Augsburg College has a very good hockey program and they will certainly be one of the best teams we have faced all year. They are well coached and they have several very good players. We will have to have a very good team effort in order to be successful in the tournament."

Sarah Carpenter '00, noted "They beat RPI 6-5 in OT, and we beat [RPI] 7-0, 1-0, and 6-0. But Augsburg did fly here [and might have been worn down from travel], so it is harder to compare. But we're focused, and very serious. We're getting down to business and are working hard for this."

The Middlebury women plan to take full advantage of the first ever chance to win a Division III title, after having performed so well in ECACs.

Said Catherine Pullins '00, "To finish my last time in the Chip with a bang was great. We all came together and played with our hearts. We are ready to prepare for Boston at the end of March. It will be an honor to be part of history."

Catherine Elkins '02 commented on the upcoming series: "The whole team is really excited ...so that we have the opportunity to prove why we are number one in Div. III. I think that the two games that we have left will be close and very exciting."

Mandigo agrees with Elkins, saying, "We are all very excited to be playing in Boston. The team is happy and proud to be representing Middlebury College. The team took a week off to rest and re-energize before the championship. We had our first practice [Monday] afternoon and it was a good one. I hope the momentum and excitement will build as we get closer to the games next week. I expect us to be prepared to play and I am confident we will give Augsburg our best effort."

The games will be held at Northeastern University's Matthews Arena, with tickets being $25 for the Division I/Division III package that gains admissions to both the DI semifinals and finals and the DIII two game series. Middlebury will play at 2 p.m. Friday, March 24, and 12 noon on Saturday, March 25.

Peter Huoppi

Sarah Carpenter '00 and the women's hockey team have their sights set on the first ever Division III Women's Hockey National Championship.

Men's hockey loses to Plattsburgh in overtime

(continued from page 24)

when Paluseo skated his way by two defenders to score his second goal of the game on the power play.

The tie sent the tournament into a fifteen minute mini-game to decide who would move on to the NCAA semifinals. Though both teams had some excellent opportunities, both goaltenders proved to be quite relentless. Sundberg stonewalled the Middlebury offense, denying 21 of their shots.

The two teams battled to a scoreless tie during the mini-game, sending the tournament into sudden death overtime. Finally, 12:59 into the overtime, Plattsburgh's Mike Daoust deflected a pass from Mark Coletta into the net, giving Plattsburgh the win and sending Middlebury home severely disappointed.

Panther goaltender Marsh showed his stamina in goal making 22 saves on Saturday and 41 saves during the 148 minutes of play over the course of the weekend. In Saturday's play, Plattsburgh's Erbsland and Sundberg combined for 39 saves. Through the weekend, Sundberg proved to be the Panthers' toughest adversary; he guarded the net for just over 123 minutes, making 81 saves and allowing just a single goal.

The Panthers ended their season with a final record of 20-5-3.

The Cardinals will move on to the semifinals of the NCAA tournament, taking on St. Thomas March 17. Norwich will also advance to the semifinals, and is scheduled to play Wisconsin-Superior.

The Men's Hockey Team salutes all the students, staff and faculty who supported us in New York last weekend and all season long.

MIDDLEBURY

Truly the best fans in college hockey!

Sincerely, The Team

Plattsburgh dashes hope of a sixth men's hockey championship

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Town News Editor

The Middlebury men's ice hockey team's hopes for a sixth consecutive national championship were shattered this weekend after 147:59 minutes of tournament play ended with a Plattsburgh goal in sudden death overtime. The win at 12:59 into sudden death came after two ties (1-1, 4-4) and a scoreless 15-minute mini-game. The loss was a heart-breaker for Middlebury, who outshot Plattsburgh 79-40 in the regulation games and 100-51 overall.

The quarterfinal weekend started Friday night with the two teams playing to a 1-1 tie. With Plattsburgh efficient on the penalty kill, the Panthers' crucial power play ability was completely shut down. Plattsburgh was also keeping pressure on the Panthers, not allowing them enough time to play their normal passing game.

"They did a good job of penalty killing. They put a lot of pressure not just on myself but Matt Skoglund and John Giannacopoulos. They were really pressing and not giving us a lot of time to move the puck," said Ben Barnett '00.

The Panthers leapt out to a 1-0 lead in the first period when Giannacopoulos carried the puck down the left boards and sent it in to Goldman, who fired in a wrist shot from the left point that was blocked by Sundberg. The puck came loose, and Barnett was there for the rebound and sent it in high at the 8:46 mark.

The Panthers thought they had another goal 2:51 into the second, but the goal was waved off. After a Matt Skoglund '01 shot hit the cross bar, Scott Goldman sent home the rebound, but his stick was above his shoulder.

The 1-0 Panther lead stood until 10:43 of the second period, when Plattsburgh's Brendan Hodge racked up a short-handed goal after intercepting the puck in the zone and beating Jon Marsh on the far side with a slapshot from the right circle.

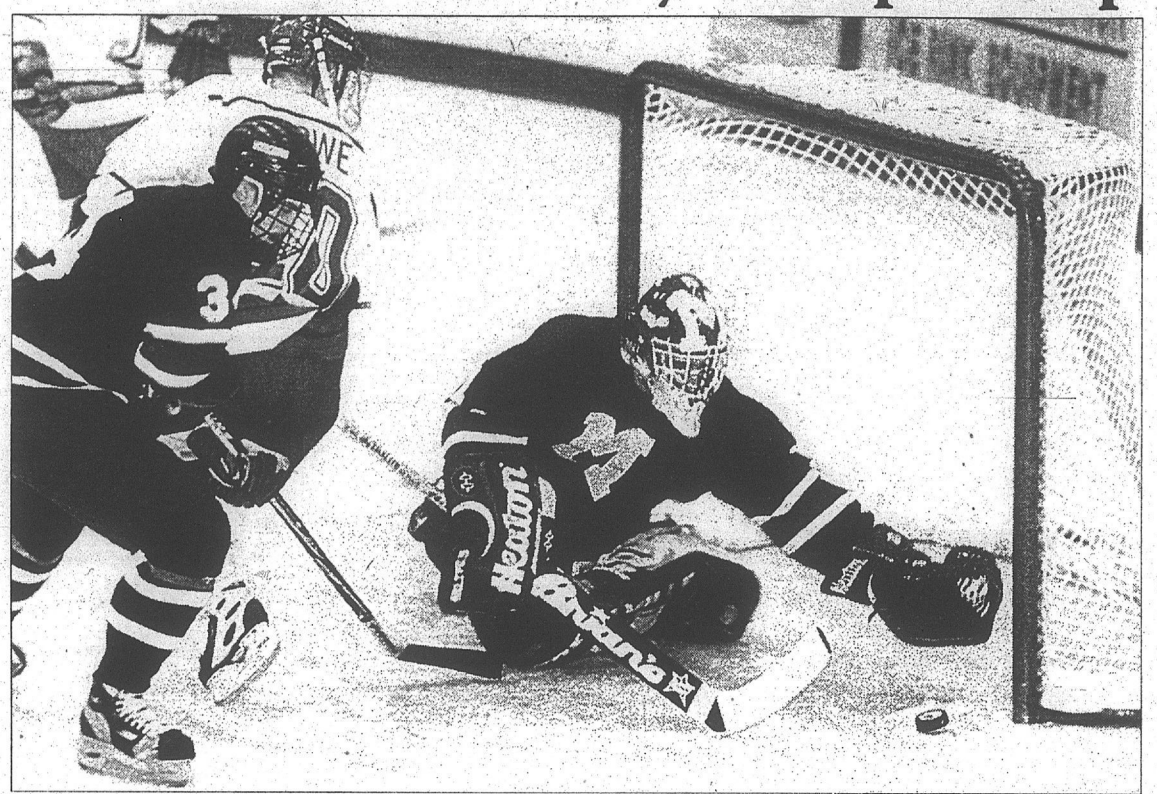
The Panthers picked it up in the third period, outshooting Plattsburgh 12-2. Their efforts were thwarted by Plattsburgh netminder Niklas Sundberg, who ended the game with a career high 35 saves. Senior co-captain Plattsburgh defenseman Bryan Murray made the save of the day at the 9:50 mark after Sundberg had been beaten to the puck in the crease by Milan Sloboda. Sloboda sent in a sure shot toward the open net, but Murray came diving out of nowhere, stopping the shot with the end of his outstretched stick. Curt Goldman then had three excellent short-handed opportunities later in the period, all of which were deflected by Sundberg.

Marsh made 18 saves in goal to preserve the tie for Middlebury.

"They did a good job of penalty killing. . . .They were really pressing and not giving us a lot of time to move the puck."

—Ben Barnett '00

With both teams coming into Saturday night even, the odds were that there would be a definitive answer at the end of Saturday's regulation game. However, the teams were evenly matched, and ended regulation play in another tie.



Peter Huoppi

A sixth NCAA championship was just out of reach for goalie John Marsh '00 and the men's hockey team.

The first ten minutes of the second game were fast-paced, with both teams making valiant efforts to get on the board first. Plattsburgh finally broke through at the 12:06 mark, when Plattsburgh's Jeff Paluseo deflected in a pass for a power play goal. Plattsburgh struck again to bring the lead to 2-0 just 43 seconds later, when Plattsburgh scored off a rebound on a shot from the left point.

Middlebury didn't need long to strike back; just under a minute and a half passed before Scott Goldman '01 sent one in from the crease just under the crossbar off a rebound from a David Bracken '00 shot.

The second period got started quickly with Middlebury tying up the game with just twenty seconds gone on the clock. Matt Dunn '02 sent in a wrist shot after a defensive turnover to set the score at 2-2. Two minutes later Bracken gave the Panthers the lead, shooting through a screen of Plattsburgh defensemen. At 4:53 in the period, the Panthers scored again to make the score 4-2 when Jack Kennedy '02 wristed in a power play goal off a pass from David Greiner '03.

With a two goal lead, Middlebury looked to be in fairly good shape. However, Plattsburgh's Sundberg had other plans. After four quick consecutive goals from the Panthers, Plattsburgh pulled Erbsland out of goal and replaced him with Sundberg. Sundberg followed up his stellar play Friday night with an even more impressive Saturday, entering the game while the Panthers were up 4-2. During the final 35 minutes of the game, he made 25 saves, allowing his team a respite from the Panthers inevitable scoring.

The Cardinals took advantage of this break, moving themselves within one at the 6:06 mark in the second period when Peter Ollari eluded defenders and beat Marsh with a slapper from the left wing.

Midway through the third period the Cardinals tied the game

(see Men's hockey, page 23)

Alpine trio crowned All-Americans

By Sean Hoskins
Staff Writer

Six Alpine Panthers traveled to Park City, Utah last week to compete in the NCAA Championships on the same courses that will host the 2002 Olympic Games. Three Panthers returned having gained All-American designation based on their results, and the remaining Middlebury skiers turned in strong runs, giving the team a sixth place overall finish.

Though Middlebury qualified more than six to go to NCAA's, a national limit allows only three skiers of each gender to compete. The Panther competitors for the men's team were Captain Forest Carey '00, Dana Drummond '02, and Adam Barron '00; Captain Brooke Laundon '00, Trina Hosmer '00, and Meg Bonney '03 represented the alpine women.

Carey posted the best finish for Middlebury on the first day of competition, coming in third in the Giant Slalom race. It was an all-eastern podium, as UVM skiers grabbed the first two spots. Carey's time of 2:22.55 was just over one second behind Mathew Knittle's winning time of 2:21.32. Drummond was the second Middlebury finisher, coming in tenth (1:24.30), earning him All-American status. Barron rounded out the Panther scoring with a 24th place finish in the time of 2:29.74.

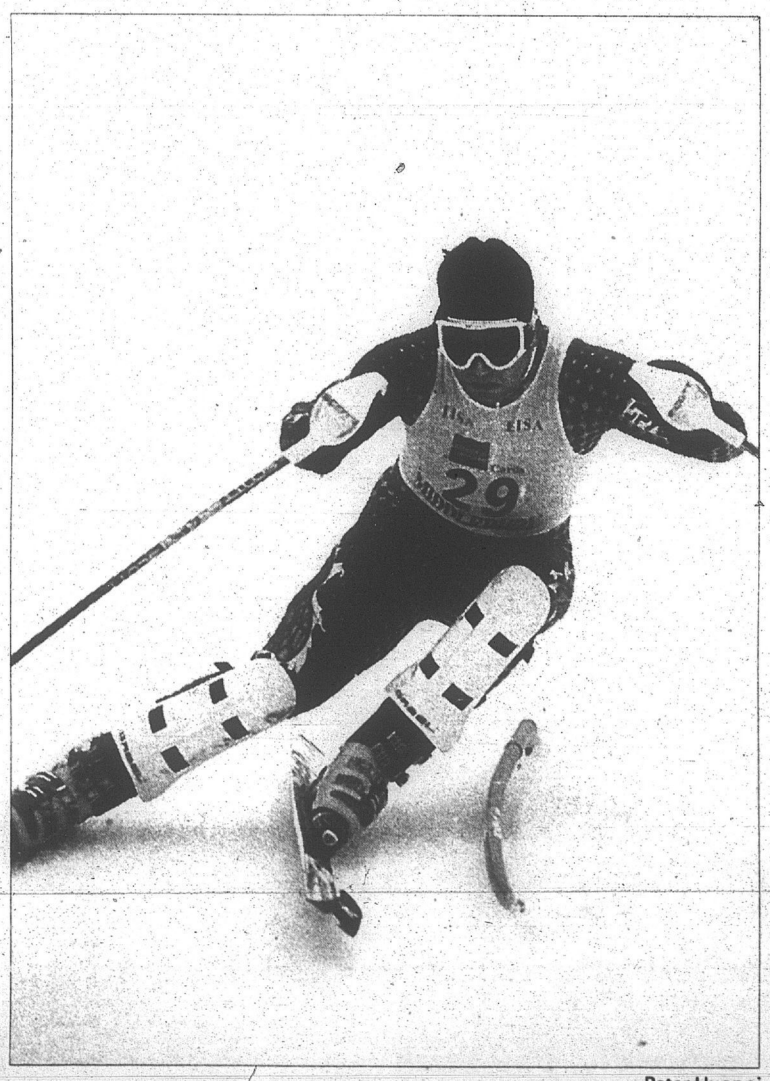
On the women's side, all three skiers ended up in the top 15. Laundon led the charge with an eighth place finish (2:29.06), a little over four seconds behind the blistering win time of 2:24.46 posted by Colorado University's Hartley. Hosmer was eleventh, just missing All-American designation, which goes to the top ten in each race. Bonney, racing in her first NCAA Championships, showed she will be a force to be reckoned with in the years to come as she placed fifteenth with a time of 2:31.46.

The Women's Slalom race almost saw a Middlebury National Champion, as Laundon, sitting in second place after the first run, posted a faster time than the race leader Cecilie Larsen . . .

The Women's Slalom race almost saw a Middlebury National Champion, as Laundon, sitting in second place after the first run, posted a faster time than race leader Cecilie Larsen from Denver University in the second run. Her charge fell just short, as her final time of 1:42.33 was .37 behind Larsen's race-winning 1:41.96. Hosmer was the second Panther to finish, grabbing the 14th spot, and Bonney ended up 28th, wrapping up a fine season by the women Panthers.

In the men's Slalom race, Carey placed fifth in a time of 1:42.53, earning him All-American status. Barron improved on his Championship results with a time just over three seconds behind his teammate's, good enough for 16th place. Drummond finished 22nd, his two runs adding up to 1:50.03.

Final team scores for the NCAA Championships left Middlebury in sixth, placing them second in the east, just behind rival UVM. This was the final NCAA's for four of the Panthers, as Carey, Barron, Laundon and Hosmer are graduating this spring, but the depth the Alpine teams have exhibited all season will work in their favor next year, as Drummond and Bonney, having had a taste of national competition, will lead their team back onto the hill with fearless tenacity.



Peter Huoppi

Alpine skier Adam Baron '00, pictured at the Middlebury Carnival, was several seconds shy of earning All-American status at the NCAA championships.